TUESDAY
November 12, 2024

BENGALURU
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SWORN IN

Justice Sanjiv Khanna takes over as 51st CJI

NEWS » PAGE 10

FIGHT FOR JHARKHAND

Campaign ends for first phase of polls

NEWS » PAGE 10

SUDESH MAHTO SPEAKS

'Hemant govt. only wants to loot money'

NEWS » PAGE 11

DATA POINT

Germany opens doors to skilled Indian workers

Their number has risen from 23,000 to 1.3 lakh

OPINION » PAGE 9

SIZZLING START

Sangita stars in India's big win over Malaysia

SPORT » PAGE 16

NEARBY

Zameer kicks up another row

BENGALURU
Just ahead of the Assembly bypolls, Housing and Waqf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan has triggered yet another controversy by making derisive remarks about the skin colour of Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. » PAGE 4

KSRTC allows UPI payments

BENGALURU
In response to long-standing passenger demands, the KSRTC is adopting cashless payment systems across its bus services. The introduction of UPI options is expected to simplify daily commutes by eliminating the need for cash and addressing other common issues. » PAGE 2

10 armed militants killed by CRPF in Manipur clash

The armed men attacked a CRPF camp at Jakuradhor and a police station at Borobekra; Kuki-Zo Council demands thorough probe into deaths of 'village volunteers', calls for a 'total shutdown'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/GUWAHATI

Ten armed extremists were killed in Manipur's Jiribam in "retaliatory fire" after a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) post came under attack on Monday, the police said.

The Manipur police said the extremists attacked a CRPF post at Jakuradhor and the Borobekra police station around 3 p.m. The places are close to Cachar district in southern Assam.

"The attack was fiercely retaliated by the CRPF and the police. After 40-45 minutes of heavy exchange of fire, the situation was brought under control. After the firing ceased, the area was searched and bodies of 10 militants were recovered along with arms and ammunition," the police said.

The Kuki-Zo Council, a civil society group in the neighbouring Churachandpur district, put the figure at 11 while claiming the dead were "Kuki-Zo village volunteers".

Security sources said the closest outpost of the Assam Rifles in the area, about 5-6 km by road, got a call about gunfire at the CRPF outpost around 2.30-2.35 p.m.

An Assam Rifles party then responded to the call for help and reached the spot in 12-15 minutes, when they were informed that at least eight of the militants had been killed, one of the personnel said.

They added that the other bodies were subsequently "brought over" by the police and CRPF party.

Sanjeev Kumar, a CRPF constable, sustained a bullet injury and was evacuated to the Silchar Medical College and Hospital in Assam for treatment.

The police said that three AK-47 rifles, four self-loading rifles, two INSAS rifles, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, a pump action gun, bulletproof helmets, and magazines were recovered.

"Operations in and around Jakuradhor, under the Borobekra police station, Jiribam, continues to flush out armed militants."

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Bloodshed again

Manipur erupted in violence after more than a month of quiet

- **Nov. 7:** A Hmar tribal woman was shot, captured, and burned alive in Jiribam district bordering Assam
- **Nov. 9:** Gunmen shot and killed a Meitei woman working in a paddy field in Bishnupur district in Imphal Valley
- **Nov. 11:** Three people, including a Naga, were injured in attacks by gunmen in Imphal East and Bishnupur districts

■ Monday's incident occurred at the Jakuradhor CRPF post in Jiribam district

UN raises alarm as climate talks begin

Global goal: Participants walk past a banner on the opening day of COP-29, in Baku on Monday. GETTY IMAGES

Chetan Bhattacharji
BAKU

The 29th Conference of the Parties, or COP-29, began in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Monday perhaps with more headwinds than ever before.

As talks opened, the United Nations warned that the Paris climate agreement's goals "are in great peril" and 2024 is on track to break new temperature records. The period from 2015 to 2024 will also be the warmest decade ever recorded, the UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said in a new report.

The re-election of Donald Trump as U.S. President has already cast a shadow over the meet where the main focus is on agreeing on climate financing – who pays, how much is needed, and how the funds would be used to address climate adaptation, mitigation and loss/damage.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

SC refuses to intervene in Prajwal's plea for bail

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea for bail by former Janata Dal (Secular) MP Prajwal Revanna, who faces charges of rape and sexual assault.

A Bench headed by Justice Bela Trivedi remarked that Mr. Revanna was "powerful", indicating that his influence, if let out on bail, could harm the trial.

Silent on relief

The Bench was silent when senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Mr. Revanna, asked whether some relief could be expected after at least six months.

Mr. Rohatgi said the investigation had reached its logical conclusion with the filing of the chargesheet.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

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Rajangad Bawa — doing everything in his power to make up for lost time

The breakout star of the U-19 World Cup two years ago talks about the attention, the adulation and his struggles with a shoulder tear; the hard road back to the top, NCA's guidance and looking up to Hardik Pandya

SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Vivek Krishnan
CHANDIGARH

India seems to produce a cluster of star performers in every U-19 World Cup these days, to the extent that displays in the tournament have nearly ceased to earn these youngsters a quicker route to the national set-up. Even so, it was worth sticking around and seeking an extended chat with Rajangad Bawa at the end of a hard-fought opening day between Chandigarh and Delhi in the fourth round of the Ranji Trophy.

He is, after all, a seam-bowling all-rounder, a job description that continues to be as elusive in Indian cricket as a pollution-free winter day in the national capital. And he is only 21.

If his numbers don't necessarily make for compelling reading at this juncture, it's primarily because the youngster from Chandigarh has not played enough cricket since his exploits in India's title-winning U-19 World Cup campaign in 2022. Before his Ranji Trophy outing against Delhi commenced on Wednesday, he had made just eight First-Class, six List- A and 13 T20 appearances.

The reason for the limited game time has been his tryst with injuries, but before we dwell on that, let's cast our memory back to the 14th edition of the U-19 World Cup in early 2022 to understand why Bawa's all-round skills evoked genuine excitement in the first place. On the idyllic islands that make up the Caribbean, with India eyeing its fifth U-19 title, he displayed belligerence as a left-hand batter while finishing as India's second-best run-getter and sharpness as a right-arm seamer to end as its third-highest wicket-taker. Both aspects came together perfectly on the big day, winning the Player of the Match in the final by bagging five for 31 before contributing 35 in a nervy run chase against England U-19.

Injury setbacks

When a Ranji debut for Chandigarh, a maiden IPL stint with Punjab Kings and an India A call-up for a 50-over series against New Zealand-A all followed that year, there was a sense that he was on the right track. But then, destiny had other plans.

"After the U-19 World Cup, I played in the Ranji Trophy, IPL, and for India A. There was non-stop cricket going on," Bawa, now donning a neatly-trimmed beard, told *The Hindu*. "Because of the load the body was taking, I had started feeling it a little bit, but the mistake I made was that I didn't take rest. I just kept playing. Then during the first practice session for India- A (against NZ-A), I felt something was wrong because I was sensing back pain after bowling. The National Cricket Academy (NCA) physios managed it well at that time and made me even play two matches comfortably. After that, when I went to play for Chandigarh in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, I felt the issue had become bigger. The NCA called me to Bengaluru, and the back issue was sorted in 2-3 months. But then when I started bowling again, I suffered a tear near my right shoulder. This was two months before IPL 2023. Normally, a tear takes 2-3 months to recover, but my issue was a bit complicated. It took me 5-6 months to get back. I missed the IPL and other tournaments and the comeback took longer than expected."

The good news is that Bawa is fully fit and back playing regularly for Chandigarh. And unlike last season when he was just returning to action, he is now free of constraints about his workload and anxiety about the prospect of getting injured again. That is reflected in his performances too. In his three completed matches for Chandigarh in the Ranji Trophy this season, he has made 209 runs at 52.25, including a career-best 146, and picked up eight wickets, significantly better than his numbers in the 2023-24 Ranji campaign where he had played all of three games.

"It is quite satisfying (to be getting a run of games)," said Bawa. "When things were going well for me, I had injuries and stuff. It has been four matches and, touch wood, there has been no issue. I have no restrictions now. I can bowl as many overs as the team needs. Last season, the NCA had put a limit on the number of overs. But that is not there this season. Obviously when you are just coming back, you are apprehensive about not getting hurt again. But I have been playing for the last one year. Gradually, it has gotten out of my head. Now I know that my body is completely fit and ready to play."

In his time recovering from injuries at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru, which has now been renamed as the Centre of Excellence and moved to a much swankier facility in the city's outskirts, Bawa also underwent corrections to his bowling action. "There were minor corrections with my arm path and landing foot," he explained. "Some minor changes had to be brought in. You can't tinker too much with the natural action, but when I was doing my rehab at NCA, they were working on my action as well."

Solid backing

During the course of a 15-minute interaction, Bawa emphasised the NCA's helpful guidance in his comeback journey on more than one occasion. That the all-rounder remains part of an elite list invited for high-performance camps at the NCA is another reason for his gratitude towards the V.V.S. Laxman-led set-up.

"I went to the NCA in August. Being in the 'Targeted Players' list does give me a lot of motivation. Last season, my numbers had been average because I was thinking more about the injuries and not able to focus much on my performances. So I wasn't expecting to be in the group this time because my performances didn't merit it. But even then, the BCCI and selectors saw my potential and supported me. It made me happy. It was surprising as well that they were backing me so much. It meant a lot to me. The NCA called me for 2-3 camps, took fitness tests and is monitoring everything right now," he said. "I wear a GPS tracker while bowling even during a match. I have to send the number of overs I bowl every day for the NCA to have a look."

Bawa's father and coach, Sukhwinder, has played a supporting role as well. "It is very difficult being a coach and father. I have to keep a balance," said Sukhwinder, who has most notably trained Yuvraj Singh. "My only focus is to ensure he stays relaxed. I don't want to put pressure on him. Neither does he put pressure on himself nor do I put on him. In the back of his mind, it must be there that he needs to perform, but I tell him that enjoying the game is more important."

Easier said than done, of course. Particularly in the immediate aftermath of the U-19 World Cup victory, there were enormous expectations from Bawa that could have potentially messed with his head. How did he deal with them?

"At that time, there were a lot of comparisons with Hardik Pandya. That was not right for him because he has been playing at the top level for many years. I look up to him. I talk to him too. I met him at the NCA and whenever I have tried speaking to him, he has given me the right guidance," offered Bawa, who has recently attended IPL trials for Mumbai Indians and Rajasthan Royals. "Everyone has their own way of dealing with expectations. People on the outside have greater expectations. I knew I had to just do my work. I had clarity that I could just focus and perform in my next match or tournament. The rest is for other people."

As much as he tries to steer clear of putting pressure on himself, the rise of Andhra all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy into the Indian set-up recently is a pointer to what may have been for Bawa.

"Yeah, playing for India is inevitably on everyone's mind," Bawa said. "Now India have got another all-rounder in Nitish, who bats really well. We saw it in the IPL and in the T20I series against Bangladesh. It is a good thing. If he is playing, he deserves it. Now I take it as a challenge that I also need to prove myself. I need to find out if I am better than him or not. If I am not, then let him play. I think like that."

THE GIST

- With India eyeing its fifth U-19 title, Bawa displayed belligerence as a left-hand batter while finishing as India's second-best run-getter and sharpness as a right-arm seamer to end as its third-highest wicket-taker. Both aspects came together perfectly on the big day
- He emphasised the NCA's helpful guidance in his comeback journey on more than one occasion. That the all-rounder remains part of an elite list invited for high-performance camps at the NCA
- As much as he tries to steer clear of putting pressure on himself, the rise of Andhra all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy into the Indian set-up recently is a pointer to what may have been for Bawa

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EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

Launch of North American Alumni Association, Christ University

CHRIST (Deemed to be University) was born out of the educational vision of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, an educationist and a social reformer of the nineteenth century in South India. Established in 1969, the multi-disciplinary Institution which focuses on teaching, research and service, offers Bachelor to Doctoral programmes in Architecture, Arts & Humanities, Business & Management, Commerce & Finance, Education, Engineering, Law, Sciences and Social Sciences to over 30,000 students. Spanning it's four campuses in Bengaluru, Karnataka, and off campuses in Lavasa - Pune, Maharashtra, and Ghaziabad, Delhi, National Capital Region (NCR) are a testimony of harmonious multiculturalism with students from all the states and union territories of India and over 60 countries from across the world. With its alumni spread across the globe, the CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Alumni Foundation Bengaluru, launched the first ever overseas alumni chapter at New York City on Saturday, November 9. The inaugural office bearers took charge in the presence of the Vice Chancellor of the University Dr. Fr. Joseph CC at a gathering of the alumni across the USA and Canada. Some of our beloved Alumni were selected as Core committee members and some as Executive Committee members. The Core Committee members with a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, will take the initiative and Executive Committee members who are located in all parts of US & Canada will promote their initiatives in their regions. The Chapter heads will be in close touch with all Campuses in India and in constant communication with the Office of Alumni Engagement in the Central Campus of Christ (Deemed to be University) in Bengaluru.

East Point College of Engineering & Technology (EPCET) Concludes International Conference on "Pesticides and Related Emerging Organic Pollutants Impact on the Environment and Human Health and Its Remediation Strategies"

Department of Basic science and Humanities at EPCET successfully hosted International Conference on Pesticides and Related Emerging Organic Pollutants Impact on the Environment and Human Health and Its Remediation Strategies, in collaboration with DST-SERB, VTU, CSIR, KSCST, INSA, Quicklrn and Adani Cement. The three-days event brought together 12 delegates, including over 55 research paper presenters, both online and offline. The conference focused on three key factors: assessing the environmental impact of pesticides and emerging organic pollutants, examining their effects on human health, and exploring innovative remediation strategies to mitigate and manage these pollutants sustainably. Principal of EPCET, Dr. Mrityunjaya V. Latte welcomed the guests and delegates from United Kingdom, Croatia, Germany and Finland to the conference. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. C.T. Aravindakumar, VC of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala, as the Chief Guest, along with Prof. Dr. Jan Andersson as the Guest of Honor. The plenary session featured distinguished keynote and guest speakers. The conference provided a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange, with sessions focused on innovative approaches to benefit society by promoting sustainable pest management, driving research and development in eco-friendly alternatives, and fostering innovative remediation solutions. It enhances knowledge sharing, shaping policies for healthier ecosystems and communities. To honor their contributions, distinguished guests were presented with mementos as a token of appreciation from EPCET, Bengaluru.

CMRInstitute of Technology (CMRIT) Celebrates 25 Years of Educational Excellence with Grand Silver Jubilee Inauguration

CMRIT proudly marked the beginning of its 25th anniversary with a grand inaugural ceremony, highlighting the legacy of academic excellence and innovation. The event, held at the CMRIT campus, was graced by eminent leaders from governance, technology, and education. Dr. Raj Kumar Khatri, IAS (Retd.) and former Additional Chief Secretary of the GOK, inaugurated the Silver Jubilee celebration as the Chief Guest and unveiled the silver jubilee calendar. He appreciated CMRIT dedication and advised the students to face challenges and act upon it ethically. Shri Manu Chopra, CEO and Co-founder of Karya, inaugurated, commending the institution's progressive outlook and its exemplary achievements throughout its glorious 25 years. Dr. K.C. Ramamurthy, IPS (Retd.), CM of CMR Group of Institutions - CMR University and former MP, he said CMRIT is dedicated to empower our students to become leaders across all domains. In recognition of academic accomplishments, 103 students were felicitated for their exceptional achievements. The alumni were also acknowledged by the dignitaries. Dr. Sanjay Jain, Principal of CMRIT, reflected upon the vision of the institution to build ambitious students. Other distinguished guests included Dr. B. Narasimha Murthy, VP and Dr.Chitra K Dean of CMRIT, who with their zest and constant support, uplifted the celebratory spirit of the inaugural ceremony, 2024. As CMRIT celebrates its Silver Jubilee, it remains dedicated to provide transformative education that equips the students to thrive in an evolving world.

Inauguration of the 18th International Conference on Trace Elements in Man and Animals at Ramaiah College of Arts, Sciences, and Commerce.

The 18th International Conference on Trace Elements in Man and Animals (TEMA18) commenced on November 8, 2024, at the Apex Auditorium, MSRIT, Bengaluru. Co-organized by the Ramaiah Group of Institutions, India, and Pennsylvania State University, USA, and coordinated by the Ramaiah College of Arts, Science, and Commerce - Autonomous, the conference brought together 59 global experts to explore the significance of trace elements in human and animal health. The ceremony began with the Ramaiah Anthem and an Invocation Song, followed by the lighting of the lamp by esteemed dignitaries. Dr. Shalini Chandrasekhar Nooyi, Principal and Dean of RMCH, welcomed attendees and emphasized the importance of TEMA18 as a platform for collaborative research. The Lighting of the Lamp ceremony was conducted by the dignitaries. Dr. Shalini Chandrashekar Nooyi, Principal & Dean of RMCH, delivered the Welcome Address, emphasizing the importance of the event. The Guest of Honor Dr. K Sandeep Prabhu, Professor & Head at Penn State University, USA, and General Secretary of TEMA 18, provided a brief overview of the conference, highlighting its academic impact. The Chief Guest, Dr. P R Krishnaswamy, Former Director of Pathology at Jaslok Hospital, Mumbai, shared valuable insights on medical advancements, followed by the Guest of Honour, Prof. Xingen Lei from Cornell University and Dr. Sridevi A Singh, the Director, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru, India who emphasized the significance of global academic collaborations. The event reached a milestone with the Release of the Souvenir, a proud moment for all present. The Presidential Address by Dr. M.R Jayaram, Hon'ble CM of Gokula Education Foundation, followed, where he expressed gratitude to the guests and participants. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr. Pushpa H, Principal of M.S Ramaiah College of Arts, Science and Commerce, officially closing the inaugural ceremony.

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH e-TENDER

e-Tenders are invited from the eligible tenderers for the following procurements as per the procedure of CMWSSB under single cover system conforming to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No	EMD amount in Rs	Availability of Tender Schedule	e-Bid Submission closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1	Hiring of A/C maxi cabs (Sedan) for the use of officials of the CMWSS Board on a contract basis for a period of three years (2024-27) Tender No: MAT/OT/022/2024-25	Rs.15,000/- per vehicle	From 14.11.2024 to 04.12.2024 upto 3.00 P.M.	04.12.2024 upto 3.00 P.M.	05.12.2024 upto 3.30 P.M.
2.	EMD by online transfer only through NIC Portal. The tenderer shall submit scanned copy of online transaction statement towards EMD as part of Tender document.				
3.	Availability of tender documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / website:www.tntenders.gov.in For all other details refer tender schedule in the website from 14.11.2024				

DIPR/4851/TENDER/2024 PURCHASE MANAGER

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

S.W.M.C.No.A7 / 6611 / 2024 **E- Tender Notice**

E-Tender is invited for the following work by Superintending Engineer (SWM) in Solid Waste Management Department.

Description	Estimate Cost
Supply of safety and cleaning items on Rate Contract Basis for a period of 2 years	**Rs.6.56 Crores**
Pre Bid Meeting	18.11.2024 at 11.00 am
Tender submission online last date	26.11.2024 at 3.00 pm
Tender opening date	27.11.2024 at 4.00 pm

Tenderer can view and download the details of E-Tender from website **http://tntenders.gov.in** and may participate in tender **EMD Amount Rs.6,56,000/-** should be pay online payment through E-tender portal details given in Tender Document

DIPR / 4865 / Tender / 2024 **Superintending Engineer (SWM)**

DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES
TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF POLYESTER STAPLE FIBRE FOR COOPERATIVE SPINNING MILLS

E-Tenders in Two cover system (Online Technical Bid and Online Financial Bid through e-Procurement Portal) are Invited from reputed firms for the **Supply of Polyester Staple Fibre** for 6 Functioning Cooperative Spinning Mills in Tamil Nadu.

S. No.	Name of the goods	Quantity required	Required Earnest Money Deposit in (Rs.)	Tender Document availability on the portal	Date of closing of e-submission of Technical and Financial Bids	Date, time and place of opening of Technical Bids
1	1 Denier 32mm Polyester Staple Fibre	2077.26 MT	3,00,000/-	14.11.2024 to 25.11.2024 upto 11.00 a.m	25.11.2024 upto 12.00 Noon	25.11.2024 at 04.00 p.m. O/o The Director of Textiles, Chennai.

The tender documents can be downloaded at **free of cost** from the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in**. Eligibility of the Tenderer and other conditions are stipulated in the Tender Schedule.

Pre-Bid Meeting: There will be a pre-bid meeting on 18.11.2024 from 12:00 noon in the Directorate of Textiles, Chennai-34, Conference Hall.

Contact : **Joint Director (Admin, Marketing and Data Analysis)**
Telephone: **044-48660050**
Email ID: **jointdirectortextiles2023@gmail.com**

Joint Director (Admin, Marketing and Data Analysis) / Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/4848/Tender/2024

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

KPCL invites tenders from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/ Company and having past experience for the following works: **1) KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT2235 Date: 05.11.2024** Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection, Commissioning and Testing of Dust Suppression System with High Pressure Mist at MRHS Silo of Unit-4. **EMD: Rs.23,405/-. 2) KPCL/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT1927/ CALL-2 Date: 04.11.2024** Retrofitting of Electromechanical and old (CDG-31/Easun Reyrolle) over current and earth fault relays of Unit-5 to 8 HT Switchgear with Numerical Protection relay. **EMD: Rs.35,754/-** Last date and time for submission of bids: For Sl. No. 1: **20.11.2024 up to 17.13 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 2 (Both Cover 1 & 2): **15.11.2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.** Tender documents can be downloaded from GoK e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (MM-1),** Mobile: 944495 96545 (For Sl. No. 1)/ **Executive Engineer (HT-2),** Mobile: 94495 96528. E-mail: eht2rtps@gmail..com (For Sl. No. 2) RTPS, KPCL, Shaktingar-584170, Raichur Dist.

Government of Karnataka
Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Gadag
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TENDER SCHEDULE

E-tender to supply Furniture to libraries and libraries of residential schools under Zilla Panchayat Untied Grant

E-tender to supply Furniture to libraries and libraries of residential schools under Zilla Panchayat Untied Grant (1) TENDER REFERENCE NO & DATE ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಗಜಿಪಂ/ಯೋಜನೆ/ಅಆ/2024–25, ದಿನಾಂಕ : **22-10-2024.** (2) APPROXIMATE VALUE OF TENDER **54,00,000/-.** (3) EMD AMOUNT **1,08,000** /- (4) LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS **25-11-2024** 5:00 pm. (5) Date/Time of Sample Submission : Zilla Panchayat Gadag, New DC office Building Hubli Road Gadag 582101. **26-11-2024** 5.00 pm. (6) TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS **27-11-2024** 5.30 pm. (7) TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF FINANCIAL BIDS **30-11-2024** 11.00 am ಟೆಂಡರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **RDPR/2024-25/IND5667.**

ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಗದಗ/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಪಿ.ಎ/365/24–25 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ, ಗದಗ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

ENQUIRY LETTER
ಆಧಿಸೂಚನೆ : 02/2024–25/3010 ದಿ. 08–11–2024

ವಿಷಯ : Proposed Construction of Planetarium @ Karnangeri Village, Kodagu District, Madikeri ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಂದಾಜು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಕುರಿತು.
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ : ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಹಾಸನ ವೃತ್ತ, ಹಾಸನ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 1068/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26–09–2024.

I. Please be good enough to quote your lowest rates for preparation of estimate scheduled as below : 2. The quotation shall be sealed and subscribed as " QUOTATION FOR NON SR ITEMS" with reference to this enquiry and shall reach this office on or before 19-11-2024 definitely. 3. The rate shall be quoted for the delivery at Kodagu District, the rates quoted deliveries other than the above place will not be considered. The rates shall be inclusive of taxes free delivery at the above destination. If taxes extra should be made clear. 4) The details of the makers name quantity, brand etc. of the material shall invariably be furnished. The quotation without these particulars are liable for rejections. 5) The conditional quotation will not be entertained. The supplies are to be made as per department terms conditions. 6) The quotation will be opened on the next working day of the due dates in between 11am to 5pm. The interested offered may present at the time of opening.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ವಿವರಣೆ	ಪರಿಮಾಣ
	ELECTRICAL WORKS	
I.	Supplying and running Copper Wire as per IS-2141 using necessary Suitable Size Clamps, nails, guttas / spacers etc. & **5 other allied items** ಒಟ್ಟು–6 ಐಟಂಗಳು	mtrs
	IMMERSIVE 3D-2K-DIGITAL PLANETARIUM PROJECTION SYSTEM	
1.	"Supply, Installation, testing & commissioning of immersive 3D-2K Digital Planetarium Projection System along with Astrocafe" & 11 other allied items ಒಟ್ಟು–11 ಐಟಂಗಳು	Complete Set

ಇದರೊಂದಿಗೆ, ಲಗತ್ತಾಗಿ ಬರುವ ELECTRICAL WORKS ಒಟ್ಟು–6 ಐಟಂಗಳು, **PROJECTION SYSTEM.....** ಒಟ್ಟು–11 ಐಟಂಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZCN92S1ETopWNTrLail.59AMrwwlqgVns/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117879379061297342746&rtpof=true&sd=true ಲಿಂಕ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ **eepwdkodagu@gmail.com** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅಥವ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋರಿಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು–ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

Executive Engineer
Public Works Department,
No. 1, Buildings Division, SJP Campus, Bengaluru
Ph: 080-22255210

No.: EE/Bld.1/AE-1/2024-25/46 Date: 08.11.2024

Invitation for Short-Term Tender

The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible Tenderers for the works of Architectural/Interior/External development and other allied services for the proposed Construction of Karnataka Bhavan-1 at Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. TENDER REFERENCE: **PWD/2024-25/ SE0241.** Approx. Value of Work: **Rs. 79.28 lakhs.** E.M.D.: **Rs. 1,59,000/-.** Cost of Document: As per e-portal. Period of Completion: Till the completion of Project. No. of call: **1st call.** Category: **Others.** Last date for downloading Tender through e-procurement portal and submission through online: **16.11.2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.** Date of opening the Tender: as per e-procurement guidelines. Further information can be obtained from the above office or from e-procurement portal **http:// kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/DD-C.P/3134/KSMCA/2024-25

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I ABISHEK Raj Soundhararaj S/o Soundhararaj Nataraju R/o #40, 14th main road 11th A cross AECS Layout A block Kudlu, Bengaluru have changed my name from Abishek Raju Soundhararaj to Abishek Raj Soundhararaj for all future purposes.

I, MANUMALA Chakma, aged 26 yrs, D/o late Gopal Chakma, R/a No.331/1, Puthappa Layout, New Thippasandra Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560075 have changed my name to Tasleema Begum vide affidavit dt: 11.11.2024 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, B'luru

I, Praveen Krishnan P S/O, Purushothaman R/o D - 208, Casagrand Lorenza, Agrahara Badavane, Bellahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064 have changed my name to Praveen Krishnan Purushothaman.

I, THIMMARAJU S.V., S/o. Venkateshappa, r/at No.496, Thirupalya, near Suryodaya School, Bommasandra Post, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 560099 have changed my name as Raju S.V. vide affidavit dtd 11.11.2024 sworn before Notary C.Venkatapthy, Bluru.

I, MUKTHIYAR Pasha Sakeena Begum W/o Mukthiyar Pasha residing at No.20/2, B Street, Nanjappa Circle, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560017, have changed my name to Sakeena Begum Mukthiyar Pasha vide Affidavit dated 11/11/2024 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

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Passengers can now use UPI to buy tickets on KSRTC buses

As part of this initiative, KSRTC has equipped its buses with advanced Electronic Ticketing Machines, which are designed to accept UPI payments, along with debit and credit cards, making transactions quick and convenient

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

In response to long-standing passenger demands, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) is adopting cashless payment systems across its bus services. The introduction of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) options is expected to simplify daily commutes by eliminating the need for cash and addressing common issues with exact change, which often cause disputes between passengers and conductors.

10,000 ticketing machines

To facilitate cashless transactions, KSRTC has equipped its buses with advanced Electronic Ticketing Machines (ETMs). These devices support a variety of payment methods, including UPI, debit, and credit cards, offering passengers a seamless and convenient payment experience. Currently, over 10,000 smart ETMs have been deployed across KSRTC's fleet of 8,800 buses, with further expansion planned following conductor training.

Currently, over 10,000 smart Electronic Ticketing Machines have been deployed across KSRTC's fleet of 8,800 buses.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy spoke of the benefits of the new system. "This move addresses the recurring issue of passengers not having exact change, providing convenience for both passengers and conductors. Payments can now be made through UPI payment platforms as well as debit and credit cards, ensuring smoother transactions."

The ETMs will also validate National Common Mobility Cards and all types of KSRTC-issued bus passes, with this feature set to roll out within a month.

How it works

- KSRTC will equip its conductors with Electronic Ticketing Machines
- Cash and cashless options are available
- If cashless is selected, a dynamic QR code appears on the ETM
- Passengers can scan the QR code to make a payment
- After successful payment, a ticket is generated

Phased implementation

KSRTC Managing Director V. Anbu Kumar outlined the technical advancements, noting, "We are modernising our ticketing system with 10,245 Android-based smart ETMs featuring touchscreens, wireless connectivity, and faster processing speeds. These devices replace the traditional ETMs we've relied on for two decades."

Following a successful pilot test of a dynamic QR payment system, KSRTC plans to integrate this feature across all smart ETMs by the end of the month. This initiative positions KSRTC as the first transport corporation in Karnataka – and one of the few in India – to adopt digital payment solutions.

The rollout is being executed in collaboration with EbixCash Ltd., which has been contracted to implement an Intelligent Transport Management System (ITMS) for KSRTC. This five-year contract involves designing, installing, maintaining, and operating the ITMS, including cashless ticketing and integrated digital payment solutions.

Under this partnership, KSRTC aims to deploy an additional 15,000 devices over the next five years, moving toward fully automated fare collection.

BBMP orders sealing of non-residential buildings with outstanding taxes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a move to ensure the collection of outstanding property taxes, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has directed officials to seal non-residential buildings that have large property tax dues. The directive was issued during a meeting held on Monday at the Malleshwaram office.

Speaking at the meeting, Mr. Giri Nath emphasised the need for timely tax collection by taking stringent measures, especially for properties with substantial outstanding amounts.

He also stressed the importance of addressing cases related to property renovations and other pending issues within the various administrative zones.

Assistant Revenue Officers in the respective zones have been instructed to conduct meetings and take strict action to recover dues, particularly targeting properties with large outstanding taxes and those involved in renovation disputes.

The officials were advised to follow the list of outstanding tax cases and take necessary steps to ensure collection.

OTS scheme

The BBMP has reminded tax defaulters about the one-time settlement (OTS) scheme, which offers property tax defaulters a chance to pay outstanding dues without interest or penalties.

This scheme will be available only until November 30. Citizens have been urged to visit BBMPtax-.karnataka.gov.in before the deadline to clear any outstanding taxes. Failure to pay by November 30 will result in the outstanding dues being doubled starting December 1, 2024.

E-khata system

In an effort to simplify access to property records, the Bengaluru One centres have introduced a system to issue e-khata certificates.

Residents can now obtain their e-khata by submitting necessary documents and paying a fee of Rs. 45, Mr. Giri Nath said.

Road rage: BMTC driver assaulted

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Byatarayanapura police have arrested a 36-year-old carpenter who allegedly assaulted a bus driver over a case of road rage at Hale Guddadahalli junction on Mysuru road on Sunday night.

The accused, Kamal Singh, 36, a resident of Malleshwaram, was locked in the bus with the help of the conductor and other passengers and handed over to Byatarayanapura police.

Verbally abused

The accused allegedly verbally abused and assaulted the driver, Murtuja Imam Sab, who sustained injuries in the attack and was taken to Victoria Hospital for treatment.

Upon inquiry, the accused reportedly told the police that the bus had brushed against his two-wheeler. Singh then confronted the driver over the matter, which then led to the argument and the alleged assault.

"We are verifying the CCTV and other technical evidence. Further probe is on," a police officer said.

Woman auditor booked in ESI racket

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The officials of the Organized Crime Wing uncovered a racket and booked a woman auditor and five others for allegedly floating fake companies and getting health cards for people showing them as employees of the non-existing firms to avail free medical facilities offered by the government.

Based on a tip-off, a team of officials initiated a probe and found the security guard of the ESI (Employees State Insurance) hospital situated in Rajajinagar, along with four of his associates, running the racket for the last two years. The probe revealed that the accused floated four companies on paper and enrolled hundreds of people as its employees to get them e-pehchan cards offered by the government. The accused also charged the beneficiaries money to get them free medical facilities.

HMT forest land denotification: Dept. issues notice to former and current officers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Forest, Ecology, and Environment Department on Monday issued notices to former and current officers for allegedly filing an application before the Supreme Court seeking denotification of forest land under the possession of Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT), without obtaining prior approval from the Forest Minister or the State Cabinet.

B. Shivakumar, the department's under secretary, issued the notices to former Additional Chief Secretary Sandeep Dave, former Principal Secretary Vijayakumar Gogi, and current Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Publicity and ICT) Smita Bijjur, and Commissioner (Technical Cell) R. Gokul.

The official sought an explanation regarding the application submitted for de-notification. They purportedly claimed in the application that the Peenya Plantation lands (survey numbers 1 and 2), under the HMT, no longer retained forest characteristics.

A satellite image of the alleged forest land in possession of HMT in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

On September 24, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre instructed that a notice be issued to these officers for attempting to denotify land valued at thousands of crores by violating regulations.

In response, Mr. Dave, Mr. Gogi, Ms. Bijjur, and Mr. Gokul were issued the notice. The notice warns that failure to provide a satisfactory response within one week will result in disciplinary action, as this constitutes a violation of rules, dereliction of duty, and severe harm to the environment and forest.

The notice warns that failure to provide a satisfactory response within one week will result in disciplinary action

IISc scientists find a way to break down 'biofilm barriers' to aid entry of drugs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A team of scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has devised a way to break down 'biofilm barriers' to aid entry of drugs.

The IISc said that most of the disease-causing bacteria secrete matrix-like layers around themselves called biofilms.

These biofilms act as thick barriers, limiting the entry of drugs, and helping the bacteria become resistant to antibiotics. To break down this biofilm barrier, the team has used an enzyme from the cow's digestive tract.

Klebsiella pneumoniae (K. pneumoniae) is an opportunistic bacterium that infects patients in hospitals, causing conditions like pneumonia, urinary tract infections, and meningitis. It wounds diabetics, leading to complications that may sometimes result in amputation of a limb.

A file photo of the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.

K. pneumoniae secretes a tough matrix-like biofilm made up mostly of sugars, fats, proteins, and DNA. Strings of sugar molecules in this matrix come together to form polysaccharides, which play a key role in making the biofilm stronger.

The IISc team decided to develop a biocompatible strategy to break down these polysaccharides, and disrupt the protective biofilm. They realised that polysaccharide-degrading enzymes could serve the purpose, and that a cow's gut was the ideal place to look for them. The bovine gut harbours microbial enzymes that digest different kinds of complex polysaccharides, such as cellulose and hemicellulose, which the animal takes in from plant food.

Cellulosic polysaccharides are very similar to the ones in the bacterial biofilms. The team focused on a set of enzymes called glycoside hydrolases (GH), looking closely at their protein structures to identify the ones that could potentially break down polysaccharides efficiently. They zoomed in on the one they called GH-B2, found in the rumen, the largest stomach compartment, and artificially synthesised it in the lab.

When they tested the lab-made GH-B2 on four different strains of K. pneumoniae isolated from different patients, they found that it successfully broke down biofilms in all four.

Debasis Das, assistant professor, the department of inorganic and physical chemistry (IPC) and corresponding author of the study, said that such a broad activity of the enzyme was surprising, as the strains were different in terms of their serotypes.

Rave party: CCB officials wanted bribe and sexual favours, says RTI activist

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A complaint filed by a city-based RTI activist with the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has alleged that a few CCB officials demanded bribe and sexual favours from the women who were booked by the officals during a raid on a rave party held on the outskirts of the city in May this year.

Bribe of ₹10 lakh

Based on the complaint, the SHRC has asked the Bengaluru City Police Commissioner to probe and submit the report by November 21. In his complaint, Vijay Dennis, the founder and president of Karnataka RTI Workers Seva Samithi, said that CCB officials, who were part of the raid, demanded a bribe of ₹10 lakh and created fake medical reports to implicate the women. They also sought sexual favours from them.

The CCB carried out the raid on GR Farmhouse in Hebbagodi near electronics city on May 19, and arrested five people. The rave party was hosted under the banner 'Vasu's Birthday: sunset to sunrise victory' by L. Vasu from Hyderabad.

The CCB arrested over 100 people, including Telugu cine artistes, and collected their blood samples to test for illicit drugs.

As many 85 people had tested positive for consuming narcotic substances and were booked under the Narcotics Drugs and Psycotrophic Substances (NDPS) act.

Fog affects 16 flight operations at KIA

The dense fog over KIA on Sunday.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

For the second consecutive day, flight operations at the Kempegowda International Airport were affected due to fog. On Monday, more than 15 flights were delayed, and one Indigo flight from Kolkata was diverted to Chennai. On Sunday, the KIA witnessed a heavy fog that led to the delay and diversions of 21 flights.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, NOV. 12	
RISE 06:17	SET 17:51
RISE 14:59	SET 02:31
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13	
RISE 06:17	SET 17:50
RISE 15:43	SET 03:27
THURSDAY, NOV. 14	
RISE 06:18	SET 17:50
RISE 16:28	SET 04:25

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	23
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortabe. Night also will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant. Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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BUSINESS CONNECT A Business Initiative

Nexus Select Trust adopts 10 lakes, on track to meet ESG Goals FY 24-25

Nexus Select Trust is proud to announce the adoption and rejuvenation of the Swami Kunte Lake near Bannerghatta as part of its 'Lakes of Happyness' initiative, reinforcing their commitment to environmental sustainability. As part of their Lakes of Happyness initiative which they started in 2021, Nexus Select Trust has set an ambitious goal to rejuvenate 10 lakes. To date,they have successfully revitalized eight lakes across Bengaluru, Chennai, and Maharashtra, with two additional projects to be launched in Hyderabad later this month. With these new additions, the 'Lakes of Happyness' initiative will now encompass 10 lakes, positively impacting over 100,000 people, local wildlife, farmers and creating local job opportunities.

Inauguration of Five NARI SHAKTI Branches of Union Bank of India

Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Ms Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated Five NARI SHAKTI Branches of Union Bank of India, located across the country, virtually from Bengaluru on 09.11.2024, in the presence of Bank's MD&CEO Ms A. Manimekhalai, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister has advised Bank to devise more cluster-based schemes, integrated with technology, exclusively for women. She has called upon women entrepreneurs to make use of these schemes and contribute to nation by way of employment. Nari Shakti branch is a unique kind of banking with focus on extending credit to women entrepreneurs. Apart from financing manufacturing and service units of women, bank would be focusing on Advisory Services, Workshop on Start-ups, Skill Development Programs, Mentorship & Networking and Collaboration. Union Bank of India has opened Nari Shakti branches in Bengaluru, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, and Jaipur. In this connection, Bank has handed over sanction letters to beneficiaries of credit schemes.

Guru Punvaanii's Elegance Villa Launch Takes Place in Bidadi, Bheemanahalli

Recently Guru Punvaanii hosted the grand launch of its much-anticipated Elegance Villa project, an event that drew esteemed guests and real estate industry leaders alike. The launch was inaugurated by celebrated actor Mr. Ramesh Aravind, who expressed admiration for the villa's meticulous design and architectural detailing. The event was presided over by Guru Punvaanii's Founder, Mr. Sanjay Baid, along with Development Partner and MD Mr. Sunil Kumar, COO Mr. Mahendra Baid, and VP of Sales Mr. Abhilash. Together, they outlined the vision and values behind the Elegance project, emphasizing its commitment to luxury, innovation, and sustainability. Following the launch, guests were treated to an array of cultural events celebrating the fusion of art, tradition, and modern living. The two-day festivities continued the next day with actress Megha Shetty as the Guest of Honor, promising another day of memorable moments and insights into the Elegance lifestyle. The Elegance Villa project stands as a testament to Guru Punvaanii's dedication to excellence in luxury living, making it a landmark addition to Bidadi's landscape.

Will financial roadblocks continue to hinder conservation efforts?

A big bone of contention at the COP16 was the mobilisation of resources to meet the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework target of $700 billion a year for biodiversity conservation by 2030, including $30 billion from developed countries. But pledges at COP16 totalled $163 million

Aparna Sundaresan
Indu K. Murthy

CONFERENCIA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS SOBRE BIODIVERSIDAD
COP16
CALI - COLOMBIA
COP16 / CP-MOP 11 / NP-MOP 5
CALI - COLOMBIA 2024
Russian Federation
A view of the closing session at the COP16 summit in Cali, Colombia, November 1, 2024. CAMILO RODRIGUEZ/REUTERS

The 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity recently concluded in Cali, Colombia. Representatives from U.N. countries tried to negotiate measures to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, which threatens both human well-being and the stability of human societies. A key sticking point was who'd pay for implementing these measures and how much.

A highlight of COP16 was the engagement of Indigenous people and local communities – but otherwise it raised a big red flag: it revealed countries are not on track to meet the "30x30" target, which calls for the world to protect 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030.

How much of a setback is this?

The highs of COP16

Inclusive decision-making: Negotiators reached a landmark agreement to establish a permanent body made up of Indigenous people and members of local communities and agreed this body's inputs would have to be included in decisions about biodiversity conservation. The move is intended to protect traditional knowledge systems and strengthen their representation and participation in policymaking.

At COP16, negotiators also recognised the role of people of African descent in conserving nature and made sure to include them in biodiversity initiatives and help integrate their traditional knowledge and conservation practices into global efforts.

Biodiversity funding: COP16 established a framework called the 'Cali Fund.' It obligates major corporations – particularly in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors – to share the financial benefits they derive from using genetic resources with the communities that nurture those resources. Companies have to contribute 0.1% of their revenue or 1% of their profits from products developed using genetic information to the fund. This figure could potentially exceed $1 billion a year and should help support biodiversity conservation projects and benefit local communities.

Half of the money from this fund will be allocated to Indigenous communities to help conservation efforts and to acknowledge their contributions to biodiversity. Contributions to the fund are voluntary, but it is a critical step towards more equitable benefit-sharing in the realm of biodiversity, especially considering the challenges surrounding global financing for biodiversity initiatives.

Biodiversity defence: COP16 also proposed guidelines to manage invasive alien species, a direct driver of biodiversity loss, by developing new databases, improving cross-border trade regulations, and enhancing coordination with e-commerce platforms. This decision emphasises the need for technical support, capacity building, and international cooperation across developing countries.

Momentum for blue: Negotiators also agreed to a new and upgraded process to identify 'Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas' (EBSAs), which are critical and vulnerable parts of the ocean. This process has faced various political and legal hurdles since its inception in 2008; COP16 revived it by agreeing on mechanisms to update existing ESBAs and identify new ones.

One Health: The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health established at COP16 underscores the need for a holistic "One Health" approach, which calls for a collective focus on ecosystem, animal, and human health. By addressing the common drivers of biodiversity loss and poor health, such as deforestation and climate change, the plan aims to prevent zoonotic diseases, reduce non-communicable diseases, and promote sustainable ecosystems. It also encourages partnerships among health professionals, conservationists, and policymakers to develop tools and measures to track the progress of biodiversity plus health initiatives.

Innovating with caution: Redesigning organisms or creating new biological systems (synthetic biology) was an important topic of discussion at COP16. Applications – including bioengineered species for ecosystem restoration or sustainable materials to reduce resource strain – are promising because they can address environmental challenges. However, researchers have raised concerns over the risks involved and the unintended ecological effects of introducing synthetic organisms that could disrupt ecosystems, affecting natural species.

Countries' representatives also discussed regulatory frameworks to manage these risks and ensure a balance between innovation and conservation.

The lows of COP16

Among the unresolved issues at the meeting, financial commitments and a lack of a monitoring framework are at the forefront.

Uphill battle for finance: A big bone of contention was the mobilisation of financial resources to meet the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) target of $700 billion a year for biodiversity conservation by 2030, including $30 billion from developed to developing countries. But pledges at the conference totalled only $163 million.

Redesigning organisms or creating new biological systems was an important topic of discussion at COP16. Applications – including bioengineered species for ecosystem restoration or sustainable materials to reduce resource strain – are promising because they can address environmental challenges

Disagreements over the governance and distribution of funds led to an impasse, with discussions on financial mechanisms being suspended without resolution. This was because developing nations advocated for a dedicated global nature fund for conservation, whereas wealthy nations blocked the proposal due to concerns over fund structure and the idea that existing frameworks were enough to meet financial needs.

Monitoring and implementation: Implementing the GBF was another key issue at COP16, but progress was limited. Only 44 of the 196 countries submitted an updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) review framework for evaluating their progress through a "global stocktake." Many countries have still not submitted their NBSAPs. The lack of a mandatory enforcement framework could weaken the goal.

India at COP16

India unveiled its updated NBSAP at COP16, outlining a roadmap for biodiversity conservation efforts aligned with the GBF. The updated plan aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve harmonious coexistence with nature by 2050 through a "Whole-of-Government" and "Whole-of-Society" approach.

India is challenged with balancing conservation with economic growth. So the updated NBSAP outlines 23 national biodiversity targets and emphasises a transformative approach to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration. In particular, it focuses on inter-agency cooperation, financial solutions, and involving community members in restoring degraded ecosystems, protecting wetlands, and sustainably managing marine and coastal areas.

Looking ahead

Establishing inclusive decision-making bodies and frameworks for benefit-sharing shows progress. But without adequate financial commitments and robust monitoring mechanisms, reaching the 2030 targets will be difficult.

While nations reflect on the outcomes of COP16, it is clear that conserving biodiversity is crucial for environmental health, socio-economic resilience, and climate stability. For nations like India, where biodiversity is deeply tied to cultural heritage and economic stability, the stakes are particularly high.

Governments must set ambitious targets and take steps to translate these into actionable, measurable, and time-bound goals. Transparency in reporting and shared knowledge systems are vital for tracking progress and addressing gaps. As the world looks forward to COP17 in Armenia next year, collaborative action and cross-border efforts could make or break our ability to beat the triple planetary crises of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss.

(Aparna Sundaresan is a senior analyst and Indu K Murthy leads the Climate, Environment and Sustainability sector, both at the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), a research-based think tank.aparna.sundaresan@cstep.in, indukmurthy@cstep.in)

The COP29 summit venue in Baku. ALEXANDER NEMENOV/AFP

A guide to COP29 climate summit jargon

Reuters

With U.N. climate talks tackling complex topics from energy policy to global financial aid, the annual summit has developed its own ever-growing lexicon.

Here's a guide to some of the terms in play at this year's COP29 discussions.

UNFCCC: This acronym stands for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which is the name of both the 1992 treaty committing nearly 200 countries to fighting global warming and the secretariat set up to implement that treaty.

COP: This acronym stands for Conference of Parties, and describes the annual summit of countries that have signed the UNFCCC treaty. This year's COP29 meeting in Baku marks the 29th such gathering since the UNFCCC took effect in 1994.

NCQG: This relatively new acronym will be focal at COP29. It stands for the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance, an annual target for funding developing country climate efforts.

NDC: Most often, these NDCs or Nationally Determined Contributions are referred to simply as "country pledges" and describe national action plans for reducing its emissions and adapting to climate impacts. The next round of NDCs are due in February, though some countries plan to submit new plans in Baku.

GLOBAL WARMING: The term describes the gradual increase in the global average temperature.

CLIMATE CHANGE: While this term is often used interchangeably with "global warming," it means something different. Climate change describes global warming as well as its consequences, such as extreme weather events.

GREENHOUSE GASES: These gases, sometimes referred to simply as GHGs, are able to trap solar heat in the atmosphere and cause global warming. The most powerful GHGs are methane (CH4) and carbon dioxide (CO2), which are also referred to as "carbon emissions" because both molecules contain carbon. The world's excess carbon emissions come mostly from the burning of fossil fuels and other industrial activities.

NET ZERO: This term does not mean releasing zero emissions, but rather releasing no more than the amount being recaptured by CO2 abatement technologies, tree planting, or other means. Reaching "net zero" would mean atmospheric GHG concentrations stop increasing.

LOSS AND DAMAGE: Governments last year pledged $800 million toward a new 'loss and damage' fund to help poorer nations being hit by climate-fueled disasters. The fund, which now has a director and a host nation, will now be deciding how the funds should be dispersed and calling for more contributions at COP29.

CARBON OFFSET: Also known as a "carbon credit," these instruments allow a country or company to compensate for some of their carbon emissions by investing in projects to bring emissions down elsewhere.

ARTICLE 6: This term refers to a provision in the Paris Agreement on carbon offsets, and is used as shorthand for UNFCCC efforts to regulate international trading in carbon credits. Governments are hoping to resolve rules for trading carbon offsets at COP29 to allow for these markets to become operational.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

A chemical symbols mystery

Vasudevan Mukunth

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

QUESTION 1
This element is a soft white-coloured metal in ambient conditions. Among metals, it's renowned as the best conductor of heat and electricity and is also the most reflective. Its chemical symbol comes from the Proto-Indo-European root for "shining." Name this metal.

QUESTION 2
This element is a precious metal that's almost impossible to find in elemental form in nature (on the earth). Its simplest claim to fame is that it has the highest melting and boiling points among all known elements — around 3,400 C and 5,930 C, respectively. Name it.

QUESTION 3
People have prepared a popular eye cosmetic for many centuries by grinding a particular mineral form of this element. The world's largest deposit of this element is in the Xikuangshan Mine in China. Name the element.

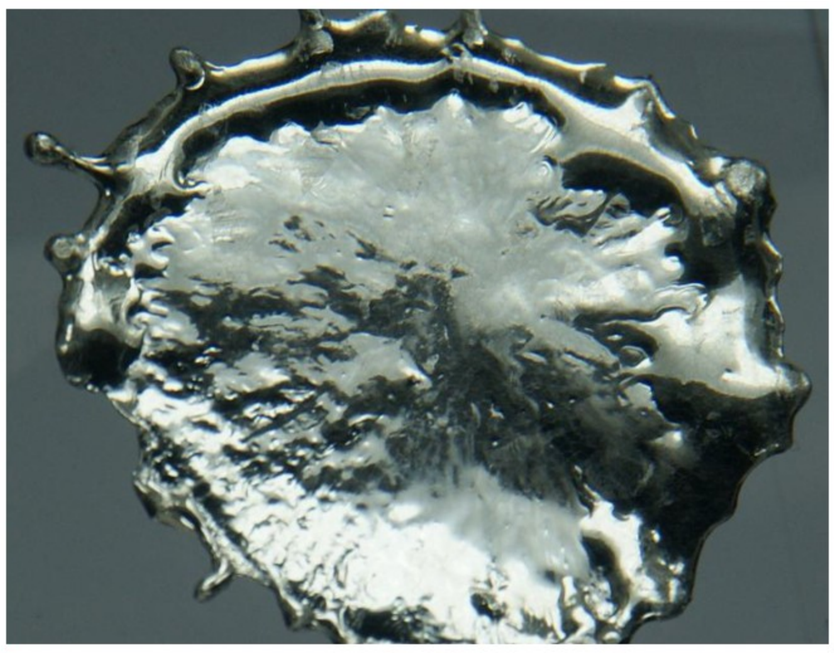
QUESTION 4
Fresh-cut pieces of this solid element have a peculiar grey-blue colour. Of all the elements that don't undergo radioactive decay, this element has the highest atomic number. Perhaps its most famous application in the premodern era was in the printing press. Name it.

QUESTION 5
What is common to the five elements in the four questions above plus the visual question vis-à-vis their chemical symbols?

Answers to November 7 quiz:
1. Weathering cycle that breaks rocks apart – **Ans: Freeze-thaw cycle**
2. Sediment type formed by loosely arranged matter – **Ans: Alluvium**
3. Soil parameter used as a proxy for its organic matter content – **Ans: Redox**
4. Process by which soil is observed and documented – **Ans: Mapping**
5. Soil type described by Karl Cäsar von Leonhard – **Ans: Loess**

Visual: **Horizons**

First contact: Anmol Agrawal | K.N. Viswanathan | Partha Sarathi Ghorai | Tanisha Pavaiya


Visual: The element shown was once called "white lead" for its appearance. In fact, its chemical symbol comes from the Latin name for an alloy of lead and silver. Name it.
CREDIT: JURII

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Students from unauthorised schools told not to register for SSLC exam this year

Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board releases guidelines in this regard

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has directed students from unauthorised schools not to register for the SSLC examination this year.

Last year, around 5,000 students of unauthorised private aided and unaided schools faced the problem of not being able to write the SSLC exam.

The KSEAB has released guidelines in this regard that all Deputy Directors of Public Instruction (DDPIs) of the State have to submit the list of approved and non-accredited private aided and unaided high schools for the year 2024-25 under their jurisdiction. "If there is a discrepancy students from unrecognised school taking the examination, the respective DDPIs and Block Education Officers (BEOs) will be the responsible," it said.

Last year, around 5,000 students of unauthorised private aided and unaided schools faced the problem of not being able to write the SSLC exam. FILE PHOTO

Every year, thousands of students from unauthorised schools struggle to appear for the exam. Last year, the KSEAB had withheld the draft admission tickets of SSLC students studying in 129 private high schools in the State whose affiliation had not been renewed for the academic year 2023-24. Over 5,000 students were in trouble.

Among them, the highest number of schools were in Bengaluru South and North educational districts. Finally, the board tagged all the students from such schools with nearby government and aided schools and allowed them to take the exam.

"Details of unauthorised schools should be clearly defined and reported. Action should be taken not to submit proposals from unauthorised schools for any reason. Last year, there have been proposals from some unauthorised schools and the board has taken this seriously and initiated disciplinary action against those concerned. Therefore, such unauthorised schools should be identified at the beginning of the academic year and steps should be taken to prevent such proposals," reads the regulation.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Gopalakrishna H.N., director of KSEAB, said: "Only students from schools which have recognition renewal are allowed to register for SSLC examination. A separate code number is given to schools which have renewed their recognition and students have to register for SSLC exam using that code. But, this year we have restricted the students from unauthorised schools to register for SSLC examination and the legal action will be taken against such schools."

Complaint filed with Lokayukta against DDPI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Associated Managements of English Medium Schools in Karnataka (KAMS), an organisation representing private schools, has filed a complaint with the Lokayukta against the Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI) of Bengaluru North district, citing inaction against unauthorised schools.

KAMS has urged the Lokayukta to investigate alleged dereliction of duty by officials in the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL). According to the complaint, several unauthorised schools are operating within the DDPI's jurisdiction. Despite repeated appeals, no corrective action has been taken.

"We raised the issue with the Minister for School Education and Literacy, Principal Secretary of DSEL, and Commissioner for Public Instruction. We even provided photographic evidence of the unauthorised school buildings and their violations," the complaint states.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, D. Shashikumar, general secretary of KAMS, said, "When we reviewed the records of schools granted permission for 2024-25 on the department's website, we found several instances where permissions were given based on falsified documents."

K.V. Trilokchandra, Commissioner of the Department of Public Instruction, stated, "This issue has not been brought to my attention before. However, the allegations will be thoroughly investigated, and appropriate action will be taken."

Power shutdown

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There will be a disruption in power supply on Wednesday in the following areas: 66/11 kV Anjanapura sub-station: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. KSIT College, 8th Block, Anjanapura, Weavers Colony, Amruthnagara, S.P. Thota, Vaddarapalya and Kembathalli.

20/66/11 kV HSR layout from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Bommanahalli, HSR Layout, Kudlu, Jakkasandra, Kaikondanahalli, Somasundarapalya, Hosapalya and Koramangala.

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Date: 12th Nov 2024
Time: 10:00AM
Venue: A.C.S Convention Centre
Esteemed Chief Guest
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Hon'ble Minister of Heavy Industries & Steel, Govt. of India
Presided by
Dr. A.C. Shanmugam
B.A. LLB, FIMSA, FRCPS (Glasgow, UK)
Founder Chancellor
RajaRajeswari Medical College & Hospital, Bengaluru
Sri. A.C.S Arun Kumar
B.Tech (Hons)., LMISTE., LMCSI., MIEEE, MCSI, MISTE, CEng (India)
President
RajaRajeswari Medical College & Hospital
Smt. S. Lalitha Lakshmi
Managing Trustee
Moogambigai Charitable & Educational Trust
www.rrmch.org / www.rrmch.edu.in

Three killed in two separate road accidents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two persons, including a 22-year-old engineering student, were killed when a speeding car knocked them down while they were negotiating a curve at Kammanahalli cross in Hulimavu on Monday. The deceased were identified as Sahad, native of Kannur in Kerala, and his friend, Rishi, 21. The duo, residing in Jigani, were riding the bike when the car knocked them down and sped away.

In another incident, a 23-year-old man, who was riding a scooter allegedly under the influence of alcohol, lost his balance, and crashed into the median on BGS flyover near CAR grounds. Prithbi Bhuniya was a native of West Bengal.

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In the presence of

THIRU. DURAIMURUGAN
Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Govt. of Tamil Nadu

DR. GOVI CHEZHIAAN
Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Govt. of Tamil Nadu

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The size of the budget of Andhra Pradesh for 2024-25

2.94 In ₹ trillion. The Andhra Pradesh government on Monday presented a budget of ₹2.94 lakh crore for the year 2024-25 with Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav asserting that it was aimed at "restarting the financial wheels of the State." PTI

The number of international films at IFFI 2024

180 *Better Man*, a semi-autobiographical film about British pop singer Robbie Williams, will open the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), where Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce will be presented the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award. PTI

Number of people killed in Pakistan's train station bombing

26 Pakistan's railways suspended all train services on Monday to and from a restive southwestern province where a suicide bombing at a train station over the weekend killed 26 people, including soldiers and railway staff. Train services would be suspended for four days. AP

Number of metro stations in Delhi to have bike taxi service

12 Delhi Metro passengers can now book bike taxi rides through the DMRC Momentum application. The service, which was introduced on Monday, includes two options — SHERYDS for women, by women, and RYDR, available to all commuters, according to the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. PTI

Number of road accidents in India annually

5 In lakh. The International Road Federation (IRF) has written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressing concern at the growing number of road accident fatalities in the country. Of the 5 lakh road accidents, 1.5 lakh are fatalities, while 3 lakh are injuries. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Can AMU finally claim a 'minority' status?

What does Article 30(1) of the Constitution state? Why did the 1967 *Azeez Basha* judgment state that Aligarh Muslim University cannot be considered a minority institution? On what grounds has the 1967 judgment been revoked by the Supreme Court now?

EXPLAINER

Aaratrika Bhaumik

The story so far:
In a narrow 4-3 majority verdict, the Supreme Court on November 8, overturned its 1967 ruling in *S. Azeez Basha versus Union of India*, which had previously served as the basis for denying Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) its minority institution status. The majority verdict was penned by former Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud and endorsed by Justices Sanjiv Khanna, J.B. Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra. Justices Surya Kant, Dipankar Datta and S.C. Sharma dissented.

What is a 'minority institution'?
Article 30(1) of the Constitution guarantees religious and linguistic minorities the fundamental right to establish and manage educational institutions of their choice. Article 30(2) further mandates that the state must ensure "equality of treatment" in granting aid to all educational institutions, regardless of their minority status. Notably, such institutions enjoy greater autonomy than most others. Under Article 15(5), they are exempt from providing reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and may reserve up to 50% of seats for students from their own community. In the landmark *T.M.A. Pai Foundation* (2002) case, the Supreme Court clarified that a 'minority' status should be determined based on the demographic composition of the concerned State, rather than the national population.

What is the background of the case?
In 1875, Muslim reformer and educationist Sir Syed Ahmed Khan established the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College in Aligarh to offer modern British education rooted in Islamic values to Muslims. In 1920, the Aligarh Muslim University Act (AMU Act) was passed, incorporating MAO College and the Muslim University Association into AMU. Under Section 23 of the Act, only Muslims were permitted to be members of the university's governing body, known as the Court. While the institution primarily catered to Muslims, students from other religious communities were also admitted. In 1951, this mandate for Muslim-only representation on the Court was abolished. A subsequent amendment in 1965 redistributed the Court's powers among other administrative bodies, with provisions allowing the President of India to nominate members to it.

In 1967, the Supreme Court, in *Azeez Basha*, upheld the amendments to the Act, reasoning that AMU was neither established nor administered by the Muslim minority since it had been established through central legislation. This decision sparked widespread protests, ultimately leading to an amendment of the AMU Act in 1981, which officially recognised the university's minority status.

In 2005, the university introduced a policy reserving 50% of seats in its postgraduate medical courses for Muslim students. This was subsequently challenged before the Allahabad High Court which struck it down on the ground that the university did not qualify as a minority institution as per the *Azeez Basha* ruling.

In 2006, a two-judge Bench of the Supreme Court stayed the reservation policy and referred the case to a larger Bench.

Long awaited: The entrance gate of Aligarh Muslim University. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In 2019, a three-judge Bench headed by former CJI Ranjan Gogoi referred the *Azeez Basha* decision for reconsideration by a seven-judge Bench.

The matter stayed in limbo till October 2023 when CJI Chandrachud constituted a seven-judge Bench to hear it.

What did the majority rule?
Justice Chandrachud, in an expansive interpretation of Article 30, affirmed that educational institutions established prior to the adoption of the Constitution are equally entitled to the protections granted under Article 30(1). He clarified that statutory enactments conferring legal recognition or status upon such institutions do not compromise their minority character, provided their foundational purpose was "predominantly" aimed at benefiting the minority community.

The majority verdict further emphasised that an institution does not forfeit its minority character simply because its administration is no longer vested with the community. The judges reasoned that founders or the minority community might appoint individuals from outside the community to helm the administrative affairs, particularly if the institution seeks to focus on secular education. "This may be the case for professional colleges which offer specialised courses such as law, medicine, or architecture, where the founders may not possess the knowledge, experience, or insight necessary to manage or administer the institution personally," they added.

Accordingly, the majority overturned the longstanding *Azeez Basha* ruling, asserting that treating legal formalities for recognition or degree conferral as grounds to nullify an institution's minority status would constitute a breach of fundamental rights. However, Justice Chandrachud clarified that the onus rests on the concerned religious or linguistic minorities to demonstrate that the educational institution was primarily established for the benefit of their community to qualify for protection under Article 30(1). He pointed out that such an assessment of the "brain" behind an institution's creation could be conducted through a comprehensive review of documents, correspondence and historical records.

Dismissing the Centre's contentions, the judges further declared that recognising an institution as one of national importance does not inherently diminish its minority character, as the national and minority attributes are "not at odds with each other nor mutually exclusive." They also refused to assign any weight to either the provision of religious instruction or the prominence of religious buildings, such as the St. Stephen's College church or AMU mosque, in determining an institution's minority status.

What do the dissenting opinions state?
Justice Kant primarily differed from the majority on procedural grounds, arguing that the two-judge Bench in *Anjuman-e-Rahmaniya versus District Inspector of Schools* (1981), which had initially questioned the precedent set by a five-judge Bench in *Azeez Basha*, overstepped its jurisdiction by referring the matter directly to a seven-judge Bench. He reasoned that this undermined the Chief Justice's authority as the "master of the roster."

While concurring with Justice Kant on procedural impropriety, Justice Datta questioned the legitimacy of AMU's minority status, asserting that conferring such recognition after nearly a century would amount to "historical revisionism." Notably, he critiqued the lack of constructive discussions among the judges on the Bench, revealing that the draft opinions from Justice Chandrachud – later forming the majority judgment – were received late and underwent frequent revisions. In a likely reference to the majority ruling, Justice Datta remarked that judges should refrain from disregarding long-standing precedents in favour of judicial activism.

Justice Sharma too concluded that initial support from a minority community does not automatically grant an institution minority status, particularly if the actual control vests with the government.

What happens next?
A regular Bench, assigned by CJI Sanjiv Khanna, will now reevaluate AMU's minority character based on criteria set by the majority without being constrained by *Azeez Basha*. Meanwhile, the stay on the university's 2005 reservation policy will persist until a final determination is made.

This reassessment is likely to have far-reaching implications for AMU's autonomy, its authority to reserve seats for Muslim students, and the broader discourse on minority rights in India.

THE GIST

- Article 30(1) of the Constitution guarantees religious and linguistic minorities the fundamental right to establish and manage educational institutions of their choice.
- In 1967, the Supreme Court, in *Azeez Basha*, reasoned that AMU was neither established nor administered by the Muslim minority since it had been established through central legislation.
- Justice Chandrachud affirmed that educational institutions established prior to the adoption of the Constitution are equally entitled to the protections granted under Article 30(1). He clarified that statutory enactments conferring legal recognition or status upon such institutions do not compromise their minority character, provided their foundational purpose was "predominantly" aimed at benefiting the minority community. The majority verdict further emphasised that an institution does not forfeit its minority character simply because its administration is no longer vested with the community.

Zameer kicks up another row with 'racist' remark about HDK

The comment has drawn strong reactions from NDA partners JD(S) and BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Just ahead of the Assembly bypolls to three constituencies in Karnataka, Housing and Waqf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan has triggered yet another controversy by making derisive remarks about the skin colour of Union Minister and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy. Leaders of both the BJP and the JD(S), the NDA partners, have condemned the remarks as "racist".

At an election rally on Sunday evening, Mr. Khan said Congress candidate C.P. Yogeshwar, who until recently was a BJP MLC, had no other option but join the ruling party to contest the polls. "Mr. Yogeshwar did not go to JD(S) because *kalia* (the black man) Kumaraswamy is worse than the BJP. After going

Housing and Waqf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy

with BJP, Mr Kumaraswamy is planning to buy Muslim votes. Instead, Muslims will pool money and buy your (Mr. Kumaraswamy's) family," he said.

Playing a purported audio clip in which a voice is heard saying he would not seek votes from Muslims, the Housing Minister asked the crowd: "Who is saying this? The *kala* (black) Kumaraswamy." Mr. Khan's Cabinet colleague Raheem Khan, former Bengaluru MP D.K. Suresh, and Mr. Yogeshwar were by his side when he was addressing the rally at Channapatna.

Union Minister Kiren Rijju took to social media platform X to condemn Mr. Khan's statement. "I strongly deplore Mr. Khan calling the former Chief Minister as 'kalia Kumaraswamy'. This is a racist remark, same as Rahul Gandhi's advisor saying South Indians look like Africans, North East as Chinese, and North Indians as Arabs." BJP veteran B.S. Yediyurappa also expressed dissatisfaction with the remark.

The JD(S) took to social media and said: "The arrogance of money and power will not stay too long. Your comment on skin colour shows your dirty mindset." Listing out Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge, Cabinet Ministers H.C. Mahadevappa, Satish Jarkiholi, Priyank Kharge, Raheem Khan, K.J. George, and K.H. Muniyappa, the JD(S) asked: "What skin colour do they all have? How does it matter whether skin colour is dark or light?"

The party urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to dismiss Mr. Khan from the Cabinet. Later, Mr. Khan sought to downplay the comment and said he always called Mr. Kumaraswamy "Kariyanna" without meaning any derision and he had only said the same in Urdu. "He has called me *kulla* [short person]," he said.

Ministers seek action against Pralhad Joshi for calling retired High Court judge 'agent'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress government in Karnataka on Monday filed a complaint against Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi for "defaming Justice John Michael D'Cunha and undermining the inquiry process on COVID-19 corruption" by stating that the former judge was acting as an "agent".

Urging the Governor to bring the matter to the attention of the President and highlighting the need for immediate action against the Union Minister, Ministers Krishna Byre Gowda and Dinesh Gundu Rao said that Mr. Joshi's statement warrants an inquiry into his motives and accountability for actions that contravene the principles of the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952.

"This undermines justice and sets a dangerous precedent for interference

Ministers Dinesh Gundu Rao and Krishna Byre Gowda met Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

in due process," stated the letter submitted to the Governor.

On November 9, addressing a political rally for the byelection in Shiggaon, Mr. Joshi had said: "(Retired judge) Michael D'Cunha was always against us. What was the need for giving interim report (on irregularities in purchases for COVID-19 management) ahead of the election? What was the government doing for the past one-and-a-half years? You are a judge, and not an agent."

The two Ministers told the Governor that Mr. Joshi made a deliberate attempt to politicise and taint a constitutionally sanctioned inquiry, betraying public trust in the process. The Ministers, in their appeal, stated: "We seek justice for the people of Karnataka and preservation of credibility of our judicial process. We request that Mr. Joshi is held accountable not only to restore faith in our institutions but also ensure that no one in a position of power can dismiss or undermine an inquiry without consequence."

They said that the D'Cunha Commission has not only exposed breach of trust by the then BJP government, but also betrayal of the practice of public service. "The report has justifiably stirred sentiments across Karnataka and exposes the exploitation of a humanitarian crisis for personal profit. The commission has conclusively exposed criminal acts, including fraud, corruption and abuse of power, and recommended the prosecution of officials under the Prevention of Corruption Act," the Ministers claimed.

The D'Cunha Commission, formed to probe alleged irregularities during the pandemic, in its interim report recommended action against former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and former Health Minister B. Sriramulu for importing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits from China at inflated prices when they were available locally at lower prices.

Govt. orders further probe into 'scams'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

IAS officer Sudhir Kumar (retd) has been appointed to go through the Ramana Reddy report on the financial irregularities in Kalyan Karnataka Region Development Board (KKRDB) and Kalyan Karnataka Human Resources, Agriculture and Cultural Association that runs into several hundred crores.

The order issued on Monday said that Mr. Kumar has been appointed to review Mr. Reddy's report and take up further investigation and inquiry into the matter. He has been asked to submit his report within six months.

After the Congress came to power last year, a committee under the then Additional Chief Secretary Mr. Reddy was formed to look into the allegations of misappropriation worth crores in the two Kalyana Karnataka bodies.

Allegations against KKRDB include misappropriating crores meant for purchase of new buses, sanctioning fewer Primary Health Centres than approved, not initiating works to build anganwadi buildings, among others.

All roads lead to Channapatna on last day of campaign

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah campaigning for Congress candidate C.P. Yogeshwar in Channapatna on Monday; (right) JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy and BJP leaders B.S. Yediyurappa, R. Ashok, and V. Somanna campaigning for Nikhil Kumaraswamy. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

After nearly two weeks of high voltage campaign amidst MUDA row, wakf land controversy, questions being raised over continuation of the government's guarantee schemes, and attacks and counter-attacks on corruption issues that set the political narrative, the open campaign for bypolls for Channapatna, Sandur, and Shiggaon Assembly constituencies came to an end on Monday.

The key battleground among the three constituencies going for bypoll on November 13, Channapatna, saw the most high voltage political action on Monday as the State's top leaders converged there and participated in last-minute rallies attended by thousands.

Accusations hurled

In a show of strength at the NDA rally, Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, and former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa attacked the Congress government to seek votes for candidate Nikhil Kumaraswamy in Channapatna. A few kilometres away, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief

Tuesday will see door-to-door campaign by leaders and voting is on Wednesday

Minister D.K. Shivakumar, seeking votes for Congress candidate C.P. Yogeshwar, hit back at Mr. Gowda's family. In high decibel verbal duel, both camps hurled accusations at each other, questioning each other's contribution in the development.

"In the land of toys, Mr. Yogeshwar has become a Congress puppet. There is no development in the State and the government is indulging in rampant corruption," Mr. Yediyurappa said. Mr. Gowda, holding the former Chief Minister's hand, said: "I once clashed with him, but we are together now to unseat the corrupt Congress government." Mr. Gowda, who had earlier urged voters to "break the arrogance of Mr. Siddaramaiah", on Monday said: "Nikhil's victory should break the arrogance of Mr. Shivakumar. I made Mr. Siddaramaiah the Finance Minister but I do not want to talk about him."

'Feudal mindset'

Hitting back at Mr. Gowda, Mr. Siddaramaiah said in the Congress rally: "He has a feudal mindset and does not allow any other Vokkaliga leader to grow. I have warned JD(S) core committee chairman G.T. Deve Gowda to come out of the party for his own good." Mr. Siddaramaiah added: "Mr. Gowda did not like me because I come from backward classes. He does not like Dalit and Backward Classes. He is frustrated because I have become Chief Minister for the second time."

Mr. Shivakumar, for whom the Congress's victory in Channapatna is crucial, accused JD(S) leaders of "weeping and lying" to secure votes, and Mr. Gowda's family has not contributed to any development.

Interestingly, Mr. Shivakumar claimed that Congress ticket was given to Mr. Yogeshwar because he "apologised". He said, "I would have been Congress candidate in Channapatna if Mr. Yogeshwar had not joined the Congress. He came to me in the last moment and apologised for his mistakes. Immediately, I spoke to the Chief Minister and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and the 'B' form was issued. I am sorry that the decision was made without consulting the party workers."

Mr. Shivakumar, however, did not elaborate on the reason for which Mr. Yogeshwar apologised. He also blamed Mr. Yogeshwar for the two electoral losses he suffered, and said he would have won if he had remained in the Congress.

According to the Election Commission, there are eight candidates in the fray in Shiggaon, 31 in Channapatna, and six in Sandur. Tuesday will see door-to-door campaign by leaders and voting is on Wednesday.

Crowd tells Yatnal to 'stop talking politics'

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, MLA and BJP leader, left an event mid-way after the crowd asked him to stop talking politics at Terdal in Bagalkot district on Monday.

At temple inauguration

Mr. Yatnal who was invited to the inauguration of the Allama Prabhu temple, began saying that the waqf board had tried to take over eight acres of land from a farmer he knew well. Some people in the crowd interjected and asked him to "stop talking politics" during a religious function.

He retorted by asking them whether the topic of waqf board was politics, to which they replied that it was. Someone in the crowd also said that Muslims of the town had contributed ₹6 lakh towards the temple construction. "People of all faiths have donated for the land. Please stop talking politics," another said.

This upset Mr. Yatnal who stopped his speech, got down the stage, and stormed off looking visibly upset.

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UFW-2	BWSSB/ EE(UFW)-2/ AEE(UFW)/AE/ 333/2024-25 Dt: 11.11.2024	Rs.14.5 Lakhs / Rs.37,000/-	19-11-2024 upto 4.30 p.m.	20-11-2024 at 5.00 p.m.
	Sd/- Executive Engineer (UFW-2).			
North-2	BWSSB/ ENTE/AE-1/ 1750/ 2024-25 Dt: 07.11.2024	Rs.67,12,046/- / Rs.1,58,410/-	18-11-2024 upto 3.00 p.m.	19-11-2024 after 4.00 p.m.
	Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-2).			

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO3138/24-25

Channapatna bypolls: Micro-management of OBCs and MBCs might hold the key

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

In an election that is expected to go down to the wire, with every vote counting in the bipolar contest between two Vokkaliga candidates in Channapatna, the focus is on votes of backward classes, though land-owning Vokkaliga community remains politically dominant.

The Congress, which has not won the seat since 2013, is looking to make inroads into the Vokkaliga voter base and also woo the Muslim voters. The JD (S), now part of the BJP-led NDA, which derives its strength from Vokkaliga voter base, is focusing on backward classes and hoping to retain Muslim votes.

Of about 2.32 lakh voters in the constituency, it is estimated that Vokkaliga voters constitute about 1.1

BJP leaders B.S. Yediyurappa, Janardhan Reddy, and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy campaigning for BJP candidate Bangaru Hanumantha in Sandur. FILE PHOTO

lakh followed by Muslims with about 30,000 votes. The Congress candidate and four-time legislator C.P. Yogeshwar is locked in a see-saw battle with NDA candidate Nikhil Kumaraswamy, who is trying his luck in the electoral politics for third time.

"Votes from the most backward classes (MBCs) and other backward classes (OBCs) have emerged to be important for the JD(S)," a party source said.

While the BJP benefited from its alliance in the parliamentary polls, where JD (S) managed to transfer its Vokkaliga votes in Old Mysore region, the regional party seems to be benefiting from the BJP in Channapatna. Several OBC and MBC BJP leaders are entrusted with the task of micro-managing the communities since the JD(S) lacks many such leaders in its ranks.

It has brought Mysuru MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar as a considerable number of Urs community voters are in the constituency, while former BJP legislator N.L. Narendra Babu, from the Tigala community, too, is on the field. Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa's appeal among Lingayats here remains intact, sources claimed, adding that Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy is visible among the SC community voters.

Similarly, JD(S) legislator for Devadurga (ST) constituency Karemma G. Nayak is working closely with Dombru and Iruliga, nomadic tribes, found near hillocks of Channapatna. Former Minister Bandeppa Kashempur is trying to woo Kuruba voters.

Congress insiders admit that the JD(S) and BJP's approach to wooing MBCs and microscopic communities might be paying off, since together these communities bring a big chunk of voters. Sources said that though KPCC Social Justice Wing chairperson C.S. Dwarkanath is working closely with about 10 MBCs, the Congress outreach towards the OBCs, including Bestha, Uppara, Gollas, Devangas, Tigala, Urs, and Balijas, is lacking. "They are the Congress' traditional voters, but now the BJP is working closely with them. The Congress is focusing heavily on the Vokkaliga optics. Barring Kuruba community that is well-organised politically and backs Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the party is not doing much with other communities," sources in the Congress said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

K RAVINDRAN (62)
Retd. Executive L&T Infotech
husband of Mrs.Namagiri Ravi attained lotus feet of Baghavan Sri Sathya Sai on 11.11.2024 at his residence at Choolaimedu, Chennai.
✆ 99625 45294
99625 45249

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No. IADB/JDTP/EIA/ETND-EC-14/315/2024-25 Date: 11-11-2024

NOTICE INVITING FOR SHORT TERM TENDER TO PROVIDE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE (EC)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tenders for NABET under 7© Accredited Consultant under two cover systems for Providing Consultancy Services for preparing EIA, SIS studies etc., to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) from State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and Consent for Establishment (CFE) from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and submission of Half yearly compliance report for all the conditions of EC & CFE for 3 years for the following Industrial Areas:

Sl. No	Name of Industrial Area	Extent in Acres
1	Mummigatti Industrial Area, Phase-II, Mummigatti village, Dharawad Taluk & District (2nd Call)	326.64
2	Sanjeevarayanakote Industrial Area, Sanjeevarayanakote village, Bellary Taluk & District(3rd Call)	154.58

Applicants may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Scheduled of dates are as follows: • Last date for submission of Technical & Financial bid is: **27-11-2024 up to 5.00 pm**

DIPR/CP/3147/2024-25
Sd/- Chief Engineer-2 KIADB, Bengaluru

CACHE

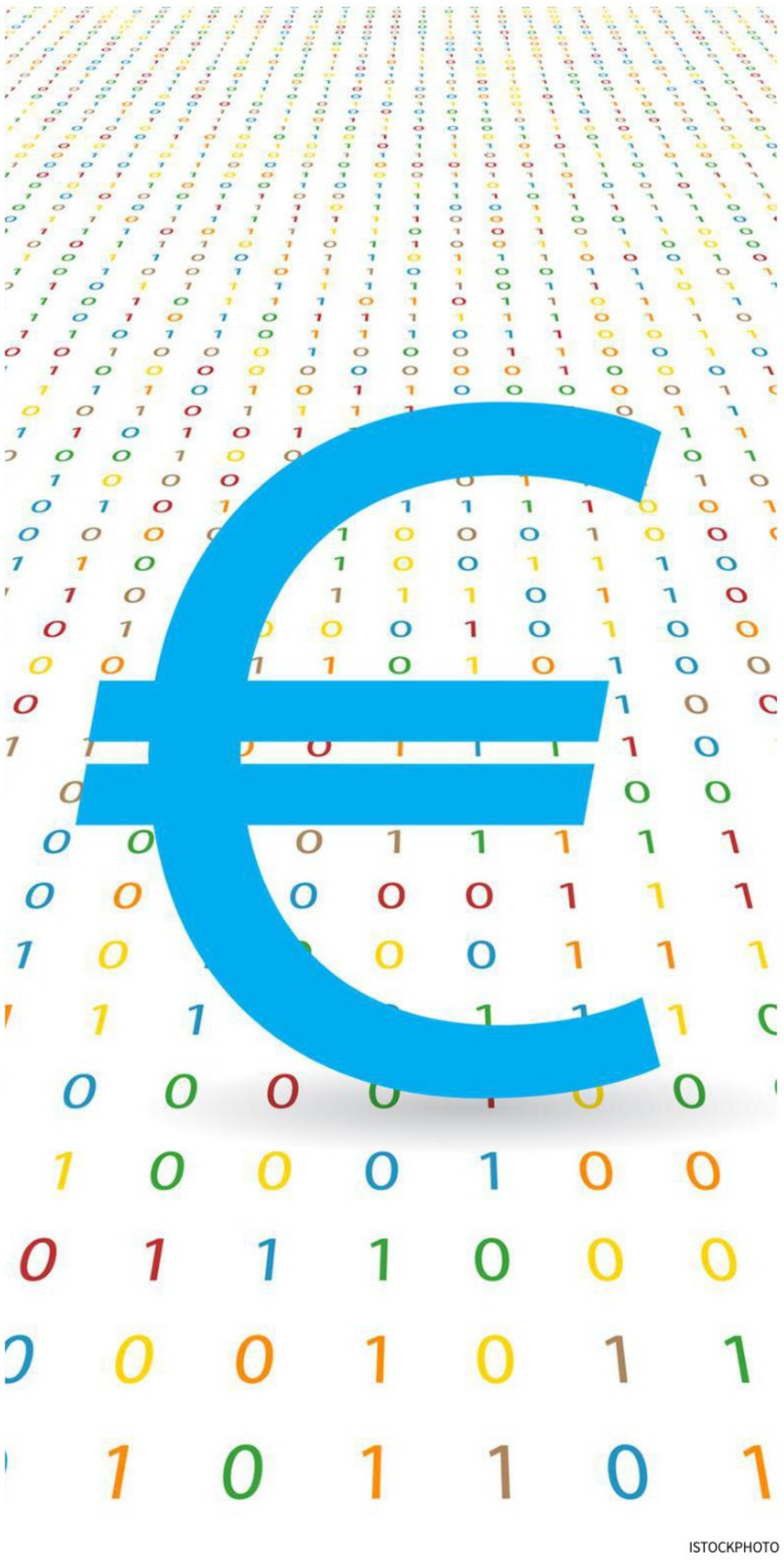
The underbelly of Europe's digital euro

The ECB has presented this central bank digital currency, the digital euro, as a new, better alternative for citizens: free, anonymous, and reliable. But this does not convey its actual purpose

Peter Schadt

The European Central Bank (ECB) has been working on a digital currency for some time now; its "preparation phase" commenced in November 2023. This currency is meant to be the government's alternative to existing cashless options such as credit cards, apps, cryptocurrencies, and bank transfers. People can use the digital euro to pay directly from a digital wallet, on a smartphone or computer, without involving a bank or payment gateway. Depending on the end device, the money can be transferred via Bluetooth, a browser extension or a smartphone contact.

The digital euro differs from other types of digital payment options because the ECB issues it directly. Indeed, this central bank digital currency is expected to be an infrastructure that the ECB manages, making it possible to process national and international payments between citizens and companies quickly and cost-effectively. It will also be used for micro payments, which are currently disproportionately expensive thanks to banks' and payment-service providers' conventional cost structures. The cost-neutral digital euro effectively allows for new business models. The ECB has thus presented this as a new, better alternative for citizens: free, anonymous, reliable. But this is not the truth about the purpose of digital currency.



ISTOCKPHOTO

The decisive difference

Anyone who buys with cash has abstract wealth in the form of printed paper that changes hands. With paper money, the seller holds a state guarantee that the bill of exchange also counts as such wealth. According to Karl Marx, this money, which is "the universal substance of existence for all, and at the same time the common product of all", is the "real commonwealth" of capitalist society. In this practically validated commonwealth, money is not an aid to production but its ultimate purpose: things are only produced if and insofar as they prove their worth in bringing money-value wealth into existence.

In such a society, in which buying and selling are not marginal phenomena but the form of its general metabolism, a temporary lack of money shouldn't bring all social transactions to a grinding halt. Accordingly, banks have been granting loans long before there was digital access to personal accounts. What used to be the promissory bill is now a number in an app on your phone.

Anyone who pays by digital bank transfer, PayPal, etc. is already moving away from abstract wealth in the form of cash and towards digital certificates. PayPal therefore guarantees the seller that the buyer's bank will provide her with the money to pay for the product.

This is the decisive difference from the digital euro: it will not be used to digitally exchange debt claims between different financial service providers that are intermediaries between buyers and sellers. Instead, it is a digital version of legally valid cash. In November 2023, the EU Commission clarified the digital euro will be open to all citizens and won't be limited to settling bills of exchange in interbank transactions.

Consolidation of private property

On the one hand, the digital euro is nothing but a collection of zeros and ones, bits and bytes, like the characters on our banking apps. On the other, we shouldn't be fooled: this similarity doesn't alter the fundamental difference in the political economy of the digital euro and debt to the bank. In contrast to the digital book money of the banks, the new currency is just cash in a technically new form and thus introduces the possibility of direct payment in the digital space. This emancipates the sphere of circulation on the internet from financial service providers and allows direct transactions between users.

There are also technical consequences. While payment transactions with debt relationships to banks or financial service providers such as PayPal can only be processed via the internet, the digital euro also allows offline payments.

As offline payments are supposed to be anonymous, public opinion often emphasises that the new digital currency "can keep up with the anonymity of cash", as e-euro expert Tobias Weidemann says. Anonymity is certainly possible with the right technical design but it can't be the principal motivation to develop the digital euro.

The list of good reasons for the digital euro are derived from the justifications for money 1.0. The euro's functional definition, as a tool for private owners who may find it difficult to sell their goods or buy others' without money, is repeated with digital money: "It would be just as practical at flea markets or in classified ads as it would be among friends when they are settling accounts for a joint undertaking," per Mr. Weidemann.

In each case, private property is first assumed and money is then presented as practical so that its circulation is guaranteed. This is a circular argument: money as abstract wealth is nothing other than the objectification of private property in pocket size. Money is not only practical but practically necessary in a society in which everything is subject to the service of property.

The ECB presents the advantages of the new currency in three steps. The first headline claims "money is evolving". This is of course a lie with which the ECB simply claims its monetary policy ambitions as an intrinsic necessity of modern currencies and thus sells it as a necessary evolutionary stage. This is also advertising in the spirit of justification: one's own action is the midwife of an evolution that is coming, midwife or not.

It follows this with the well-known reinterpretation of money as a technical achievement, which in its digital version would do more to "make life easier", a practical experience that probably only really applies to those who don't only depend on money in principle to live but also have enough of it. But it is precisely these people who are at stake when smart contracts are to be concluded with the digital euro.

Contribution to Europe's sovereignty

The ECB's move is to strengthen the home of the euro through its digital variant. This is the imperialist twist: technical emancipation from financial service providers that are not headquartered in the EU and threaten to dominate digital payment options. The ECB claims a "digital euro would ... contribute to the competitiveness and resilience of our payments landscape vis-à-vis payment service providers from non-European countries."

Herein lies the rub: because it is not Europe's own financial service providers that have prevailed as a digital payment alternative in the competition between financial capitalists, the EU wants to use a state alternative to prevent the digital circulation sphere from becoming dependent on U.S. capital.

But the European Union's claim is not limited to this defensive prevention of foreign influence. Because the digital euro would be one of the first currencies available as a virtual means of payment, the EU hopes to destroy some of the business of foreign competitors as well. This strengthening of the euro, on its way to becoming world money used to do business everywhere in the digital sphere, is its political-economic claim.

It is better not to confuse this competition between the leading imperialist nations for a globally recognised currency with one's own interest in shopping more easily on the internet. In this respect, those who understand the digital euro as a simplification of their lives and those who fear the "transparent consumer" are both wrong. It's simply not about the effects of the currency on citizens.

Peter Schadt is union secretary, DGB Region Stuttgart, and teaches at the University of Stuttgart.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"I like the shirt you're wearing."

"This? It's a hand-me-down."

"A what?"

"A hand-me-down. Haven't you ever worn a hand-me-down before?"

"I can't answer that question because I don't know what a hand-me-down is."

"Oh, sorry. Let me see if I can explain it. Let's say I have an old shirt that doesn't fit me any more. So I give it to you and you start wearing it. That shirt would be a hand-me-down."

"In other words, you have handed down the shirt to me."

"That's it."

"So a 'hand-me-down' is 'an article of clothing' given away to someone when you have no more use for it. Is that correct?"

"It doesn't always have to be clothing. It can be anything. But usually a 'hand-me-down' refers to clothing. Mohan, for example, has three brothers who are older than him. So most of the clothes he wore when he was growing up were hand-me-downs."

"Thank goodness, I don't have any brothers."

"True. What's your take on Mohan?"

"My take? What do you mean, 'my take'?"

'"What's your take on Mohan?' means 'what's your opinion of Mohan? 'what's your take on something' has become very popular in America. You might even say it's become a craze."

"Do educated people use this expression?"

"Oh yes. At a press conference, a reporter asked President Clinton, 'What's your take on the situation in Somalia, Mr. President?' This expression is relatively new, but many people are using it instead of the usual 'what's your opinion; 'what do you think of...', etc."

"But what's wrong with the good old 'what's your opinion'?"

"There's nothing wrong with it. Maybe some people thought it was too old-fashioned and they wanted something new. So they coined 'what's your take.' Expressions like this appear and disappear in languages all the time."

"They do?"

"Of course, they do. In the 1960s, many Americans used the expression 'you dig?' to mean 'do you understand?' Hardly anybody uses it now."

"I hope the same thing happens to 'what's your take' as well. I don't like it."

"Look, all languages undergo change. New expressions are coined all the time. Instead of sitting in judgment on them, we should accept them. If you don't like a particular expression, don't use it. But don't criticise those who do, O.K?"

"Yes, sir. I think I've got your take on language change!"

Published in The Hindu on January 4, 1994.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On November 11, Justice Sanjiv Khanna succeeded Justice D.Y. Chandrachud as the 51st Chief Justice of India. A quiz on the Chief Justices of India

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1

This Chief Justice of the Federal Court and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court died while serving office. He was knighted by the British Crown in 1943 as part of the King's birthday honours. His nephew served as Chief Justice of India. Name this judge, who had a fraught relationship with Jawaharlal Nehru.

QUESTION 2

This Chief Justice of India also served as acting President of India during his tenure and hosted U.S. President Richard Nixon. He went on become the Vice President of India. Name him.

QUESTION 3

He was on the five-judge Bench that delivered the settlement order in the Bhopal gas tragedy case. He headed the commission that investigated the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and was later chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. Name him.

QUESTION 4

This descendant from the Ahom dynasty is the son of a Chief Minister. He once said, "There is a view that a post-retirement appointment is a scar on the independence of the judiciary"; a year after he stepped down as Chief Justice, he was nominated to the Rajya Sabha. Name him.

QUESTION 5

This decade is set to see two Chief Justices of India whose fathers once headed the Supreme Court. One of them is in line to be the first woman Chief Justice of India. Name her.

Visual question:

This new Lady Justice, commissioned by former CJI D.Y. Chandrachud, was installed in the judges' library of the Supreme Court recently, replacing the old one. What is she carrying? And what two items did the previous Lady Justice carry?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The flower used to mark the armistice agreement signed between the allied nations and Germany. **Ans: Poppy**
2. Name the Russian writer born on November 11 in 1821. **Ans: Fyodor Dostoevsky**
3. This figure in Palestinian history died in Paris on November 11, 2004. **Ans: Yasser Arafat**
4. This actor began his career with the 1985 sitcom *Growing Pains.* **Ans: Leonardo DiCaprio**
5. Name the first spacecraft to make an automatically controlled re-entry into earth's atmosphere. **Ans: Gemini 12**
6. This movie has links to the recently concluded U.S. presidential election. **Ans: *Hillbilly Elegy.* Its based on the memoir of Donald Trump's running mate J. D. Vance by the same name**
Visual: This is the flag of a former Portuguese colony in Africa. **Ans: Angola**
Early Birds: Manvi Yadav| M. Suresh Kumar| Tanisha Pavaiya

Word of the day

Truncate:
make shorter as if by cutting off; terminating abruptly by having or as if having an end or point cut off

Synonym: cut short

Usage: *Erosion has truncated the ridges of the mountains.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/truncatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /tɹʌŋˈkeɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Music is a great unifying and connecting factor even today, says Nagaraj Rao Havaldar

Dr. Havaldar recently presented a lecture-demonstration highlighting Karnataka's unique status as a State that has nurtured stalwarts in both Hindustani and Carnatic traditions

INTERVIEW

Nagaraj Rao Havaldar

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

Dr. Najaraja Rao Hawaldar

Dr. Nagaraj Rao Havaldar, a vocalist of the Kirana gharana, has dedicated his life to preserving and promoting Karnataka's rich classical music legacy. A disciple of Pt. Madhava Gudi, who was himself a student of Bharat Ratna Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, Dr. Havaldar's music embodies the depth and subtlety of a renowned lineage.

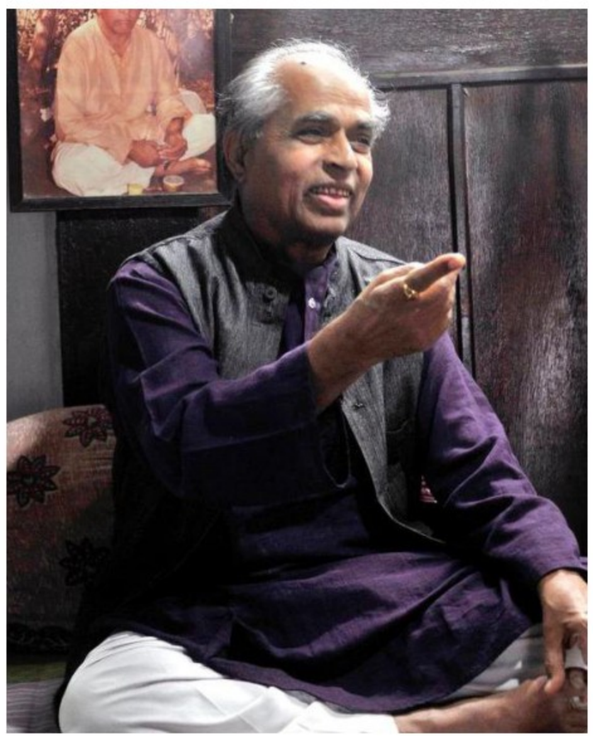
Recently, he presented *Sangeeta Ganga Kaveri*, a lecture- demonstration organised by Azim Premji University at the Bangalore International Centre (BIC), highlighting Karnataka's unique status as a state that has nurtured stalwarts in both Hindustani and Carnatic traditions. This legacy owes much to royal patrons like the Wadiyars of Mysore, who fostered a vibrant cultural exchange with the Baroda court, enriching Karnataka's musical landscape. The flourishing of Hindustani music in North Karnataka and the resilience of Carnatic traditions in the south testify to this diversity. In this interview with *The Hindu*, Havaldar delves into the historical, cultural, and social roots of Karnataka's dual musical heritage and discusses how these traditions continue to inspire artistes and audiences across generations.

How did Karnataka come to have a rich legacy that combines Carnatic and Hindustani traditions? What are the historical reasons for it?
The kings of Mysuru were responsible for the rich Hindustani and Carnatic traditions we have today. They would invite artistes from cities like Baroda to their courts, which would involve at least four days of travel. After Mysuru, they would eventually perform at cities like Belgavi, Dharwad, Hubbali and other places. That is how, slowly, the seeds of Hindustani music were sown in North Karnataka. The influence of Bombay Natya Sangeeth on North Karnataka was also very strong in those days, which too contributed to the Hindustani traditions in Karnataka.

Did these two traditions remain aloof or did they intermingle in creative ways? Can you give examples of it if they did interreact creatively?
Before the 13th century, we had only one form of classical tradition. By and large the content of Indian classical music was spiritual and religious... Hindustani music's *Raag Bhairav* is *Mayamalavagowla Raga* in Carnatic music, *Raag Malkauns* is *Hindola Raga*, *Raag Shudh Sarang* is *Mohanakalyani Raga* and so on. Both traditions have always had corresponding Ragas, as they come from the same source.

Though much is said about North-South divide in Karnataka, even after years of unification, do you think it has led to cultural enrichment

The kings of Mysuru were responsible for the rich Hindustani and Carnatic traditions we have today

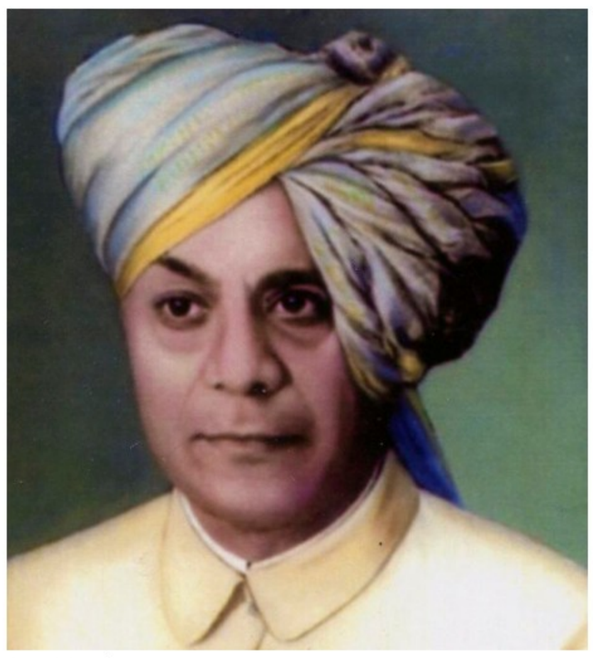


Madhava Gudi. BHAGYA PRAKASH

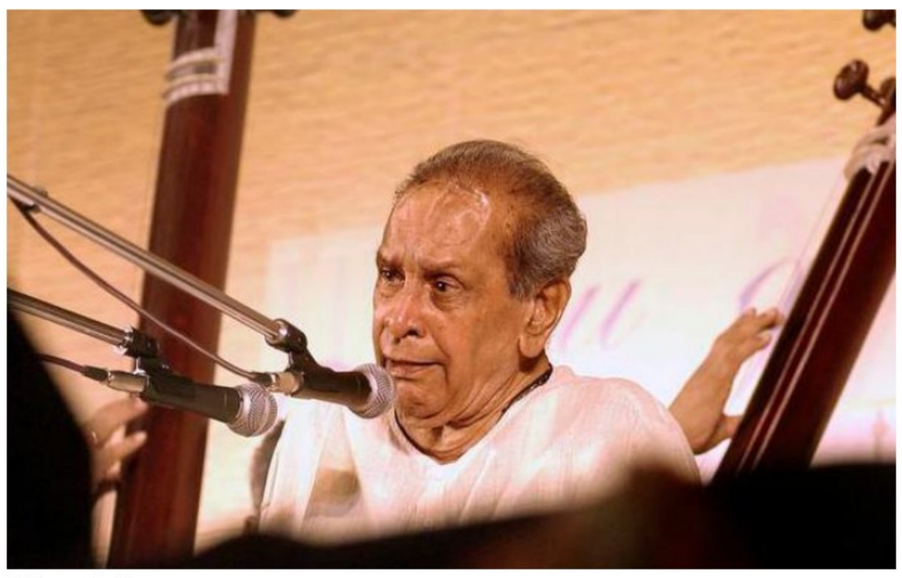
despite politically troublesome issues?
Ustad Dagar calls me during every festival to greet me, and vice versa. Bheemsen Joshi's guru was Sawai Gandharva, and his guru was Ustad Abdul Kareem Khan. When Abdul Kareem Khan started his music school in 1900s, he would take a written bond and commitment from his students saying that he/she would study for a minimum of seven years. Because he valued his art so much. Abdul Kareem Khan taught Sawai Gandharva, who in turn taught a Parsi, a Madhwa, a Vokkaliga, and nothing came in between. Music is a great unifying and connecting factor even today.

Dharwad was traditionally centre of Hindustani and Mysuru Carnatic music. Have these two cities changed in their musical landscape?
Not much change has been seen in the musical landscape. Dharwad is still the centre for Hindustani and Mysuru for Carnatic. However, what has changed is that the number of performers have increased, due to the artificial surge in the opportunities created. Earlier it was only the Dasara celebrations or Hampi Utsava, but nowadays every district has a Utsava or a festival. Who selects the artists for these festivals? The local MLA... What is his/her expertise in selecting who is going to perform? That has to go.

Would you say Bengaluru's musical scene is vibrant or has commerce as well logistical issues like traffic and absence of venues marred it?
Despite having transport conveniences like the metro, there are still many islands formed in the city. For example, Malleswaram is an island for music lovers, but if you do a programme in Basavanagudi, the audience from Malleswaram will think twice on coming. Also, the generation which by and large listens to traditional music is above the age of sixty. With such audiences, they have very protective children who do not want to send them, or the elderly are not independent enough to go on their own. With COVID-19, a new menace was introduced that is the facility of having things online. Now, whenever there is a concert by me, people ask if it is available online. These are the new challenges for musicians.



Sawai Gandharva



Bhimsen Joshi . BHAGYA PRAKASH

You are well known for your rendering of both Dasa and Vachana literature. How have these two great literary traditions influenced our music?
These two literary traditions have influenced our music immensely. My parama guru, Bheemsen Joshi, had started a unique programme called Dasavani, where he would sing Dasa Padas for four hours well withing the classical music traditions. There was no bargaining in terms of classical rendering. He set a trend, and this inspired many others to start concerts and concepts like Sharanavani, a programme on Vachanas. Dasara Padas were sung in the Mysuru court, and more such programmes were created.

You have not just been a performer but have trained several young talented singers and musicians, including your own children. As the years go by, do you think children or music lovers of this age have the same urge to learn music your generation had many years ago?
There is an unhealthy hurry about being a performer for many of the young these days. For example, 20 years ago, a couple came to me with their teenage child and said that their son had been qualified for the semi-finals of a reality show and he had to sing *Nambide Ninna Naada Devatheye*, which was sung by Bheemsen Joshi in the film *Sandhya Raaga*.

They said I would be paid a huge amount, my teaching sessions would be telecast and that I would get a lot of publicity. It is not an easy song to sing. When Bheemsen Joshi sang this song, he was in his early 40s and had already put in 30 years of practice in music. But these parents wanted me to teach this song to a 14-year-old, who had never even held a tanpura in his hand, within a weeks' time. I told them if Yuvaraj Singh can teach me how to hit six sixes in a week, then I will teach their son how to sing the song. They never came back to me. You must learn to have patience, if you want to learn music.

Incompetence rights a wrong, but for how long?

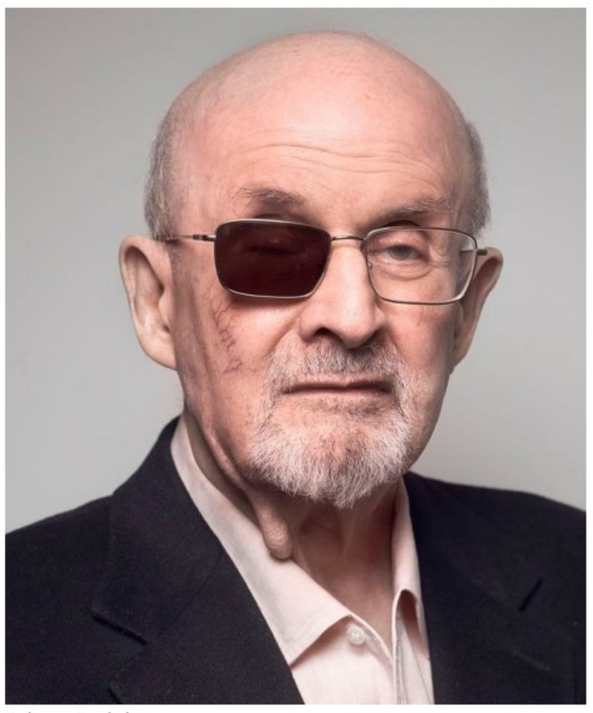
Perhaps the notification that banned the import of Salman Rushdie's *Satanic Verses* was as fictitious as the characters in the novel

ABOUT 500 WORDS

Suresh Menon

India's customs notification No. 405/12/88-CUS-III shook the world 36 years ago. For it banned the import of Salman Rushdie's *Satanic Verses*. That was months before Ayatollah Khomeini's fatwa (for blaspheming Prophet Muhammad) sent the author into hiding.

Now the world is shaking again, this time with laughter. For no one can find that notification. It has disappeared down a bureaucratic rabbit hole, forcing the Delhi High Court to allow the import of the book.



Salman Rushdie. AP

Loss of guilt
There's a whole new novel awaiting Rushdie's ironic pen (or sardonic word processor) here. If the original ban implied a loss of innocence in a country proud of its freedoms, the new twist may be a loss of guilt. Perhaps the notification was as fictitious as the characters in the novel; perhaps there are other notifications that do not exist but continue to rule our lives.

It might not be a bad idea to check out if important ones pertaining to taxes or public behaviour actually exist. Perhaps the gentleman who set the ball rolling in the court in the *Satanic Verses* case can now ask why some other books are unavailable in India. These were presumed to be banned, but we can't be sure now. Books like Stanley Wolpert's *Nine Hours to Rama*, Aubrey Menen's *The Ramayana*, Arthur Koestler's *The Lotus and the Robot*.

The *Satanic Verses* notification was issued by the Finance Ministry, and Rushdie was only one of millions who wondered why that agency should decide what the country may or may not read. When an Indian citizen went to court five years ago, asking why he could not purchase the book in India, he was directed to the customs order. And given the usual run around. Five years later, presumably after having searched every inch of the customs department and nearby restaurants where the officials might have eaten, it emerges that there is no such order. Either that, or someone, like a spy in a cheap novel, swallowed it to prevent it from falling into the wrong hands. Anything you say about Indian bureaucracy is usually true!

Victory of incompetence
Yet, by this act of forgetfulness or misplacement or poor housekeeping, the bureaucracy has righted a wrong perpetrated 36 years ago. This is not so much a triumph of the freedom of expression as a victory for incompetence. That detail , however, might be lost to history decades from now.

This wasn't a ban on literary grounds (even if *Verses* isn't one of Rushdie's best works), but on political ones. The conditions that led to the ban can be rekindled any time by politicians: one lot who want to project themselves as leaders of the community, and another who might see in protests a diversion from the real issues.

In his book on censorship published three decades ago, the novelist J M Coetzee made the point that "the very notion of entrusting the name of the Almighty to the protection of the law courts has taken on an increasingly anachronistic air." If only that were true.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 12, 1974

Draft of Ownership Flats Rules

Bangalore, Nov. 10: The State Government has published the draft of the Karnataka Ownership Flats (Regulation of the Promotion of Construction, Sale, Management and Transfer) Rules, which it proposes to make.

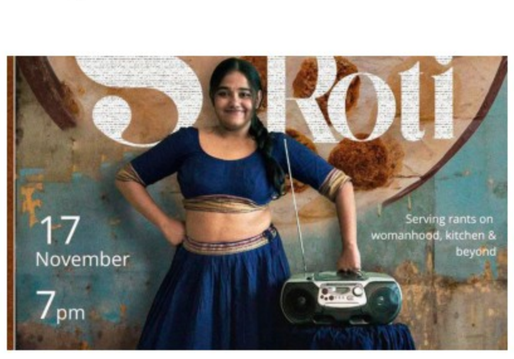
Objections or suggestions in this regard received by the Government before November 25, will be considered. The Rules lay down the manner in which a promoter has to make disclosure of documents to any person intending to take one or more flats and the particulars to be contained in the agreement for sale.

Where a co-operative society or a company of persons taking the flats is to be constituted, the promoter shall have to submit an application to the Registrar for registration of the cooperative society or the company, as the case may be, within four months from the date on which the minimum number of persons required to form such organisation have taken flats. Where the apartment takers propose to submit the apartments to the provisions of the Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972, by executing declaration and deeds of apartment, as required by that Act, the promoter should inform the Registrar, as defined in the Cooperative Societies Act, as soon as possible from the date on which all the apartment owners (being not less than five) have executed their declarations and deeds of apartment.

CITYBEATS

Let's bag a play

NOVEMBER 15
Butai Trust, founded in 2024, presents *Bag Dancing*. Directed by Ujwala Rao, the play is written by Mike Kenny. It is a tale of a homeless woman who carries her life in bags filled with memories and stories. Open for anyone aged eight years and above.
At Ranga Shankara, 7.30pm. Tickets on BookMyShow and the venue.



Solo on stage

NOVEMBER 17
Durga Venkatesan, a Delhi/Bengaluru-based performance artist, brings her theatrical production *Garam Roti* to Bengaluru. She describes it as an intersection of a theatrical performance, sound installation, with recordings of women from India. Written, directed and performed by Durga. *At Shoonya, 7pm. Tickets on BookMyShow and Insider.*

Bagels and brews

NOVEMBER 17
Maverick & Farmer, Ulsoor, will have an exclusive breakfast pop-up, featuring the New York-Montreal style bagel sandwich, which is brought to life by chef Tushar Chopra, founder of Bangalore Bagel Shop. These are paired with Maverick & Farmer's signature speciality coffees.
At Maverick & Farmer, Ulsoor. Visit their website to book your table.

Pushing the envelope of endurance

Bengaluru's Jayanarayan Raja won Ultraman India 2024, conquering 518 km in three days with a gruelling swim, bike, and run challenge

Praveen Sudevan

Achievement unlocked Jayanarayan Raja SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

There is a certain level of madness to those who dedicate their lives to high-endurance events. After all, there is no glittering cash prize awaiting them at the finish line, no international medal bringing fame. Most often, they get a certificate and a medal or shield commemorating their feat. And yet, these individuals wake up at unholy hours, run excruciating distances, and train relentlessly for years just to participate in events that push the very boundaries of human endurance.

They do this because, as they often say, "It's not about the external prizes; it's about the internal satisfaction. That's the real prize." Madness, right?

Jayanarayan, a software professional from Bengaluru, is one such 'mad' person. He recently achieved what many would consider a monumental feat – finishing first in the recently concluded Ultraman India 2024, held in Delhi from October 2 to 4. In just three days, he swam 10 kilometres, cycled 424 kilometres, and ran 84 kilometres, covering 518 kilometres.

"So, this event, the Ultraman India Triathlon 2024, was planned in Delhi as a three-day affair. I was specifically looking for a longer-duration triathlon since I'd already completed a full-distance one in Konark last year," Jayanarayan explains, "When I stumbled upon this event, I immediately tried to register. They had certain entry criteria, which I fortunately met given my previous full-distance completion."

His journey to Ultraman was not a straightforward path from childhood athletics, as one might expect. "Apart from the occasional cricket or football games, I did not participate in any sports events during my school or college days. However, as I entered my 30s, I started feeling less healthy. I realised the need to do something to stay fit."

Jayanarayan says, "I decided to take up running. It wasn't easy to start, and it took me about three or four years to develop a consistent habit."

From those tentative first steps, Jayanarayan has come a long way. Over the past few years, he has built a reputation as a consistent endurance athlete, participating in marathons, triathlon events, and now, Ultraman. Balancing the rigorous training with a demanding career as a software engineer at Zebra Technologies was not easy, but he credits his workplace and family for making it possible.

> The last day was tough. But I kept reminding myself to keep going. I realised I'd made it this far. I needed to make the most of it.

Grueling yet gratifying

For Jayanarayan, Ultraman India was the ultimate test of both mental and physical endurance. While swimming went smoothly, cycling and running presented major challenges. "The temperature in Gurgaon reached around 36 degrees Celsius, making it difficult to run the entire distance from morning to evening," Jayanarayan says, "For the final 21 kilometres, I knew I had to push myself to finish within the allotted time. It was a tough struggle, but I managed to complete the event with a few minutes to spare."

Unlike the more popular Ironman events, Ultraman offers minimal support to participants, a factor that further tests their endurance and resilience. "You either need to bring your own crew or rely on occasional assistance from the organisers," Jayanarayan explains, "I attempted the event without a crew, and I wouldn't recommend it to others. It's extremely challenging."

Despite the logistical difficulties, Jayanarayan's preparation and mental fortitude carried him through. His weekly training involved 100 to 150 kilometres of cycling and around 40 kilometres of running, all squeezed into the schedule of a full-time job.

Finding the motivation

One might wonder what drives someone to endure such extreme challenges, especially when the rewards are far from material. "The last day was tough. But I kept reminding myself to keep going, even though I knew I had very little time," Jayanarayan recalls, "I realised I'd made it this far. I needed to make the most of it."

Jayanarayan, however, is not done yet. "There are many Ultraman races worldwide, including in the US and Hawaii," he says, his eyes already set on the next Ultraman World Championship. "For this, I'll need to complete another Ultraman event in one of the affiliated locations."

But no matter what is next, Jayanarayan's journey reveals it is the inner drive that fuels endurance athletes everywhere. For them, it is not about the medals or the fame – it is about seeing just how far they can push their bodies and minds.

And that, perhaps, is the essence of the madness that makes endurance athletes run/swim/ride that one extra excruciating kilometre.

The Odd Couple returns to Bengaluru theatre

Praveen Sudevan

After an eight-year hiatus, theatre company Fools & Sages is back, staging Neil Simon's iconic comedy *The Odd Couple* under the direction of Ajai Kesavan. The play, which follows two mismatched roommates – Oscar, a carefree sportswriter, and Felix, an obsessively tidy man recently separated from his wife – invites Bengaluru's theatre lovers to experience the humour and poignancy of this tale of friendship, quirks, and clashes. Ajai's fond memories of watching the 1968 film with his father, fuelled his decision to direct the play, bringing a fresh, relatable spin to this classic.

"I remember seeing *The Odd Couple* film with Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau on a rented video cassette when I 13 or 14," Ajai recalls. "I was rolling on the floor laughing, and since then, I wanted to bring a bit of that joy back." Revisiting the play for this new production also brings a welcome challenge: balancing the nostalgia of Neil Simon's 1960s humour with the modern theatrical sensibilities Bengaluru audiences expect.

Two's company Stills from *The Odd Couple* SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ajai's approach embraces the play's humour while adapting its tone for a local audience, like incorporating Indian English accents to make it more relatable. With over 50 actors auditioning, he cast a talented group that naturally embodies the deadpan, subtle style of comedy *The Odd Couple* demands.

"A lot of the humour is deadpan, so telling a joke without trying to be funny was essential. At the same time, physical comedy comes with the risk of overdoing it," explains Ajai. Workshops were instrumental in refining the balance of each actor's comedic timing, especially for Oscar and Felix, whose contrasting personalities must be conveyed with precision.

Staging a New York-based play on Bengaluru's comparatively smaller stages also presented unique challenges, especially for scenes heavy with action and movement. "The dimensions of Indian stages are generally smaller than what *The Odd Couple* ideally requires," he says. This required innovative choreography and blocking to keep the scenes dynamic without overcrowding the space.

Despite these hurdles, Ajai finds ample creative freedom in Neil Simon's richly structured script. "The dialogues are crackling, sharp," he says, "And the action cues provide a great foundation for us to build on."

The core of the play, Ajai believes, is its portrayal of relatable character dynamics. To build authentic chemistry among the cast, the team spent evenings together playing poker, just like Oscar and Felix's group of friends in the play.

This camaraderie helped the actors embody their roles more naturally. "Everyone relates to both Oscar and Felix," says Ajai, "There's an Oscar and Felix inside each of us – or at least in someone we know. That's what makes this play resonate so well."

The Odd Couple *will be staged at Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield, on November 15, 16, and 17. Tickets on BookMyShow.*

Capturing an era Still from *Uttarayanam* SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Revisiting a classic

Museum of Art and Photography (MAP) Bengaluru invites film enthusiasts to a special screening of *Uttarayanam*, an acclaimed Malayalam film by renowned filmmaker Aravindan. Known for its sharp critique of societal corruption, the film follows Ravi, an unemployed young man whose encounters and reflections on India's freedom struggle reveal a disillusioning gap between independence ideals and contemporary political realities.

Uttarayanam is widely celebrated for its thoughtful portrayal of love, loss, and the human condition, embodying the innovative spirit of Indian cinema in the 1970s. Following the screening, a discussion led by film historian Ashish Rajadhyaksha and critic CS Venkiteswaran will deepen viewers' understanding of the film's social and political contexts. The screening marks the third instalment in 'The Radical Seventies,' a six-month series co-curated by Rajadhyaksha and jointly presented by MAP and the Bangalore Film Forum. Aimed at engaging younger audiences, the series revisits 1970s Indian cinema, a period marked by experimental narratives and radical themes. The series notes the era's films often held a "direct conversation with radical politics," presenting stories that continue to resonate today.

Ashish Rajadhyaksha is a film historian, and an occasional art curator and the author of the *Encyclopaedia of Indian Cinema* (with Paul Willemen, 1994/1999), *Indian Cinema from the Time of Celluloid: From Bollywood to the Emergency* (2009) and *John-Ghatak-Tarkovsky: Citizens, Filmmakers, Hackers* (2023). The Bangalore Film Forum, dedicated to fostering a community of film lovers, views post-screening discussions as essential to its mission, promoting an environment for critical dialogue and shared cultural experience.

The event, free with prior registration, will be held at the Mazumdar-Shaw Auditorium in MAP Bengaluru from 4pm to 7.30pm on November 16. For more information, visit map-india.org.

Campaign comes to a peaceful end in Wayanad

E.M. Manoj
KALPETTA

The campaigning for the Lok Sabha elections in Wayanad ended peacefully, despite the heightened intensity in the final hours, on Monday. Candidates took out spirited whistle-stop tours across local bodies, while political parties organised rallies, road-shows, street plays, and processions in Kalpetta and Sulthan Bathery.

In Kalpetta, LDF candidate Sathyan Mokeri with Agriculture Minister P. Prasad led a roadshow, while UDF candidate Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and the NDA's Navya Haridas chose Sulthan Bathery for their final push.

Earlier in the evening, Ms. Vadra also conducted a roadshow at the Thiruvambadi Assembly constituency of Kozhikode district. Similar rallies were held across the Wayanad constituency, spanning Malappuram, Kozhikode, and Wayanad districts. Despite the scorching heat, candidates, alongside national and State leaders, traversed the streets in open vehicles.

All three political fronts, particularly the UDF and LDF, expressed confidence about victory. The LDF is banking on its track record over the past nine years and the welfare schemes implemented by the State government, while the UDF aims to increase its winning margin from three lakhs to five lakhs, buoyed by Ms. Vadra's electoral debut.

Kerala govt. plans meeting to discuss Munambam land dispute on Nov. 22

The Ministers for Waqf, Law, and Revenue will attend the meeting chaired by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan; State Advocate-General, functionaries of Kerala Waqf Board will also attend; meeting was earlier scheduled for November 28

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The meeting planned to discuss the Munambam land issue in Ernakulam district has been advanced to November 22. Originally, the meeting was scheduled for November 28. The Ministers for Waqf, Law, and Revenue will attend the meeting to be chaired by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

State Advocate-General, top functionaries of the Kerala Waqf Board, and senior officials of all the three departments will attend the meeting.

Major Archbishop Mar Raphael Thattil affirming solidarity with residents of Munambam on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Meanwhile, the Waqf Land Protection Council has demanded a permanent solution to the land issue. The representatives of landowners raised the demand at their meeting with the Chief Minister on Monday. The delegation was led by Bishop Ambrose Puthenveettil of the Kottapuram Diocese.

The council decided to continue its peaceful protest until the issue was permanently resolved, according to a release Rocky. Around 600 families occupying the Munambam land have been staging protests demanding steps to protect their holdings, which they either inherited or purchased from Farook College, Kozhikode, decades ago.

The issue attained political dimensions with the Centre pushing the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha and later appointing a Joint Parliamentary Committee to look into it. The Bill is expected to come up for consideration during the Winter Session of Parliament which begins on November 25.

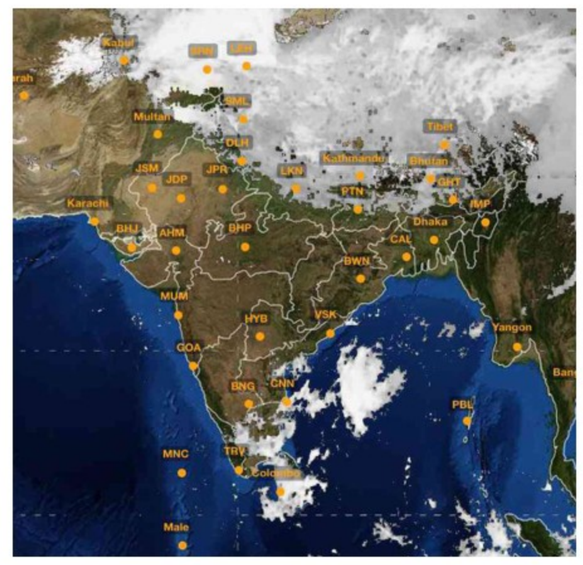
Byelection issue

With the Waqf Board's claim on the land in Munambam becoming a major issue in the byelection campaign, the BJP-led Centre on Monday assured "full justice" to the people.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju launched a scathing attack on the Congress, which has opposed the amendments brought by the Union Government to amend the Waqf Act, urging it to 'stop treating Muslims as a vote bank and work for every community. (*With PTI inputs*)

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Dense to very dense fog conditions likely in isolated pockets of Punjab

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.0	21.6	Kozhikode	—	33.6	26.2
Ahmedabad	—	36.5	20.4	Kurnool	—	34.1	22.3
Aizawl	—	29.8	18.6	Lucknow	—	31.0	18.8
Allahabad	—	33.3	20.2	Madurai	—	34.9	23.1
Bengaluru	—	28.8	20.3	Mangaluru	—	33.0	24.2
Bhopal	—	—	—	Mumbai	—	34.6	22.2
Bhubaneswar	—	31.4	22.6	Mysuru	—	28.0	19.9
Chandigarh	—	28.3	17.4	New Delhi	—	32.4	17.2
Chennai	—	32.4	24.8	Patna	—	30.7	22.5
Coimbatore	—	32.0	23.0	Port Blair	4	31.2	25.9
Dehradun	—	27.8	16.0	Puducherry	—	33.0	24.6
Gangtok	—	19.0	12.6	Pune	—	32.1	19.5
Goa	—	—	—	Raipur	—	32.2	21.2
Guwahati	—	31.9	19.6	Ranchi	—	27.6	17.0
Hubballi	—	31.0	18.0	Shillong	—	21.7	12.0
Hyderabad	—	31.0	18.2	Shimla	—	23.9	11.9
Imphal	—	28.8	12.6	Srinagar	—	16.4	3.6
Jaipur	—	33.0	19.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.3	24.6
Kochi	—	30.8	24.6	Tiruchi	—	32.5	25.0
Kohima	—	20.6	11.4	Vijayawada	—	33.0	22.5
Kolkata	—	31.0	23.0	Visakhapatnam	—	31.6	25.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	9	19	28	185	170	
Bengaluru	17	35	59	119	101	
Chennai	14	30	52	152	135	
Delhi	19	44	110	409	409	
Hyderabad	9	26	35	216	—	
Kolkata	13	39	26	46	166	
Lucknow	8	57	99	299	282	
Mumbai	5	157	60	240	158	
Pune	5	67	35	279	154	
Visakhapatnam	9	32	33	66	—	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Mandideep, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 372 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

'Form panel to examine plea for declaring Allama Prabhu Swamy temple as ancient monument'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday directed the State Chief Secretary to constitute a committee of experts, including an official from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), to examine the plea for declaring Allama Prabhu Swamy temple, which remain submerged in the backwaters of Hidkal dam in Belagavi district for nearly six months in a year, as an ancient monument.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind passed the interim order on a petition filed by Nikhil Vitthal Patil, law student and resident of Halkarni in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra.

The direction to form the committee was issued after Additional Solicitor General of India Aravind Kamath, appearing for the Central government and the ASI, told the Bench that the temple has all the ingredients for it to be declared as an ancient monument, and the State government will have to initiate steps for this purpose.

Mr. Kamath also pointed out that since this temple has not been declared as an ancient monument under the Central law, the Karnataka Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1961, will come into play as this law was specifically enacted for the "preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains in Karnataka other than those declared by or under the law made by the Parliament to be of national importance, and for the protection of sculptures, carvings and other like objects."

The petitioner had stated in his petition that ASI had informed him that Allama Prabhu Swamy temple was built between 17th and 18th centuries but the ASI did not come forward to maintain the temples as it is not listed as ancient monuments under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. Also, the petitioner had stated that his representation, submitted to the State government through Belagavi district administration for declaring the temple as ancient monument and for its relocation to a safe place, was not considered by the authorities.

From Page One

SC refuses to intervene in Prajwal's plea for bail

There was no requirement to keep his client behind bars. The police have added the charge of rape, which was not there in the initial complaint.

But the Bench refused to budge, saying it did not want to interfere with the decision of the Karnataka High Court to refuse him bail on October 21. In August, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Karnataka police, which is probing four cases of sexual assault and harassment against Mr. Revanna, submitted a 2,144-page chargesheet. It related to a case in which the former MP is accused of raping a domestic help. There are two rape cases and a sexual assault case against the JD(S) leader.

INBRIEF

No question of reviving ties with BJP, says AIADMK

The AIADMK on Monday clarified that there was no question of reviving its ties with the BJP for the 2026 Assembly election. Addressing the media after attending a meeting, organisation secretary and former Fisheries Minister D. Jayakumar said that the AIADMK would have no truck with the national party not only in 2026, but also in other elections in the future.

The clarification followed reports that Mr. Palaniswami had on Sunday said that the AIADMK was open to a reunion with the BJP.

A.P. govt. presents Budget with outlay of ₹2.94-lakh crore

G.V.R. Subba Rao
VIJAYAWADA

The Andhra Pradesh government has presented a Budget with an outlay of ₹2,94,427.25 crore for the financial year 2024-25.

Of this, the revenue expenditure is estimated at ₹2,35,916.99 crore, and capital expenditure at ₹32,712.84 crore.

Presenting the Budget in the Assembly on Monday, Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav said the estimated revenue deficit was ₹34,743.38 crore and the fiscal deficit was estimated to be ₹68,742.65 crore.

"The fiscal deficit will be around 4.19% of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), whereas the revenue deficit will be around 2.12% of the GSDP," he said.

The revised estimate for revenue expenditure for FY 2023-24 was ₹2,12,450 crore, whereas for capital expenditure it was ₹23,330 crore.

The revenue deficit for 2023-24 was around ₹38,682 crore, whereas the fiscal deficit for the period was around ₹62,720 crore, which was 2.65% and 4.30% of the GSDP respectively, he said.

The Minister, referring to Amaravati, said, "The dream capital city of Amaravati is taking shape. Our government has secured funding of ₹15,000 crore from the multilateral funding agencies through Government of India for developing infrastructure."

To fulfil a Super Six promise, our government launched the 'Deepam-2' scheme to provide three LPG cylinders a year free of cost. An amount of ₹895 crore was released for the first cylinder, he said.

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Application Notification No. H/C.210/Halt/SVHE/2024-25
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for appointment of Halt Agents from educated unemployed persons residing in and around the areas of the location identified for engagement of Halt Agent at Sisvinahalli (SVHE) Station for issuing Unreserved Tickets on Commission basis for (as mentioned in notification).

Sl. No	Station	Category Station	Section
1	Sisvinahalli (SVHE)	HG-2	Gadag - Hubballi

Last Date for Submission of Application: 11:00 Hrs. on 10.12.2024
For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in
PUB/557/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Hubballi
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal)
BESCOM invites tenders through KPP Portal from eligible Bidders against Enquiry No. BESCOM/2024-25/SE0212 for "Managed Network Service Provider for all ESCOMs of Karnataka". (1) Lot 1 – MPLS and Leased Line Services. (2) Lot 2 – M2M Network services.
Bid documents available: 14.11.2024 onwards.
The tenders can be obtained through KPP portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Aspiring bidders shall refer to KPP Portal for more details. Further, Bidders can take assistance with KPPP helpdesk (080-46010000, 080-68948777) or e-mail to support@eprochelpdesk.com
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP
Sd/-
General Manager, (ICT & MIS), BESCOM, Belaku Bhavana, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560 001.

NICDIT KRISHNAPATNAM INDUSTRIAL CITY DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (NKICDL).
1st Floor, IHC Corporate, Plot No.3,4,6, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur Dist., Andhra Pradesh-522 503.
Email: g.nagabhushanam@gov.in; gnagabhushanam@gmail.com
NKICDL invites Request for Qualification (RFQ) cum Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of consultants to conduct a DGPS/DRONE Survey and carrying out Geotechnical investigation over approximately 2500 acres each in the proposed Industrial nodes of Kuppam, Donakonda, Mulapeta and Chilamathur in Andhra Pradesh. The tender document can be downloaded from the websites: www.apeprocurement.gov.in (or) https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in from 12.11.2024, 6:00 PM onwards and the last date for bid submission is 20.11.2024, 3.00 PM.
DIPR 3286PP/CL, Dt.11/11/2024 Sd/- Chief Engineer, NKICDL

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Fax:080-28094180, Ph:080-280904178 / 4541
CORRIGENDUM-I Date:11.11.2024
1. On behalf of President of India, item rate E-Tender is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works

NIT No.	ISTRAC/CMG/MECH/CON/E-Tender-50/2024-2025 Dated: 07.10.2024.
Name of Work	Replacement of 04 No.s Passenger Lifts at 3D & 2E Block DOS ISRO Housing Colony Jalahalli and 01 No. of Passenger Lift at Anthariksh Apartment, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru.
Estimate cost put to tender	Rs. 104.28 Lakhs
Tender Document details	E-Tender
Period of completion	Six (06) Months
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 08.10.2024 to 05.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs. Extended up to 18.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs.
Bid clarifications	From 11.00 hrs. on 09.10.2024 to 06.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs Extended up to 19.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs.
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	07.11.2024 up to 16.00 hrs Extended up to 20.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs.
Last date & time of receipt of tenders	08.11.2024 up to 16.00 hrs Extended up to 21.11.2024 till 16.00 hrs.
Due date and time of opening of tenders	11.11.2024 after 11.00 hrs. Extended up to 22.11.2024 after 11.00 hrs.
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 2,08,560.00

2. Interested Tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.
Sd/- Group Head,CMG

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public is informed that My client Akash Kalathur s/o Yogesh intends to purchase the property described in the schedule herein from M/s. MARYIAM INFRASTRUCTURE PVT LTD (hereinafter builder/seller) The builder/seller represents and warrant that it is the absolute owner of the schedule property and it has not conveyed or entered into any Agreement to Sell/MOU or any sort of agreement with any other person/s, for sale/transfer of the schedule property and that the builder/seller further represents and warrants that it has not encumbered, mortgaged or created any lien on the schedule property in any manner and apart from it no other person/s, includes legal heirs, Firm or Company having any sort of right, title or claim over the schedule property. Any person/s having any objection/s or claim/s shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/s, claim/s, within Seven (07) days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which my client shall proceed with the above mentioned transaction.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the Residential 3BHK, Flat No: TF 305, 3rd Floor, in "PACIFIC LEGACY", measuring SBA of 1640 sqft with 700.17sqft UDS, constructed on Sy.No.71/2, 71/3, 71/4, 71/5, 71/6 & 71/7 measuring 20,691 sqft converted for residential use, with 1 covered Car Parking space, Situated at Bilekahalli Village, Someshwara Layout, Begura Hobli, Bangalore South Tq, under BBMP limits, Ward No.188, Bengaluru.
Prashanth B.K, Advocate,
No.17, Sir M V 2nd Cross, Kalkere Main Road, Ramamurthynagar
Bengaluru-560016 M : 09900056401
Bengaluru Date : 12-11-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owner SRI.RAVI ANKINDEEDU PRASAD RAO S/o Sri.Subbarayudu, residing at No.401, Motherland Apartment, 3rd Block, HRBR layout, JVV Backside, Bengaluru-560084.
Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Sy.No.175/17 (part of old Sy.No.175/2) measuring 1 Acre 22.08 Guntas, situated at Ittumadu Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagar Taluk & District and bounded on:
East by : Government Nala
West by : Property of Boraiah
North by : Property of Seenaiah and Thimmaiah
South by : Property of Doddakenchappa
Sd/- S.F. GOUTAM CHAND
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA e- Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.Dkl.(R&B) 09/2024-25 Email Id-sedklpwd@gmail.com
Letter No. 2215 / Date: 07.11.2024
The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Repair & Rehabilitation of Bridge & Road works as detailed below:

1. Name of the work	:	Repair & Rehabilitation of Bridge & Road works
2. No. of works	:	05 (Five) Nos
3. Estimated Cost	:	Rs.1.25 Crore to 4.70 Crore (as given in column No. 03 of table)
4. Cost of tender paper	:	Rs 10,000.00
5. Class of contractor	:	'A' Class & 'B' Class (as given in column No. 07 of table)
6. Period of Completion of work	:	05 (Five) to 07 (Seven) (as given in column No. 08 of table)
7. Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	:	From Dt 13.11.2024 to 5.00 P.M. of Dt.27.11.2024
8. Date of opening of bid	:	Dt 28.11.2024 at 11.00 A.M.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE biding only further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal: www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.
Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal(R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
B-598 OIPR-34132/11/0017/2425

Counting right

A caste survey will not automatically mean higher quota for OBCs

Last week's launch of a caste survey in Telangana by the Congress government is a step towards fulfilling its 2023 Assembly poll promise. The survey may form the basis for enhancing the quantum of reservation for Backward Classes (BCs), going by the party's election manifesto. At present, 112 communities under five categories of BCs enjoy a 29% quota in education and employment, including 4% for socially and educationally Muslim BCs. The survey is being undertaken at a time when demand for such an exercise at the all-India level is growing louder. In Tamil Nadu, an early mover in the area of affirmative action for BCs, political parties have been raising the issue though divided on whether the State or the Centre should conduct the exercise. In poll-bound Maharashtra, the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi has promised a caste-based census. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh had stated that a caste census undertaken for the welfare of the downtrodden was fine but the BJP is cold to the idea. The Union government had also said that it had no proposal to make caste data of the Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 public. In fact, in Karnataka, where most of the work on a socio-economic and educational survey was done about 10 years ago, the survey report has yet to be made public despite the submission of the final report to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The idea of a caste-based survey is being floated as a prelude to the automatic lifting of the Supreme Court's ceiling of 50% in reservation for OBCs, SCs and STs. In June, the Patna High Court struck down two Acts in Bihar, envisaging enhanced quantum in quota for BCs, Extremely BCs, SCs and STs in education and government jobs. The Nitish Kumar government had carried out a caste survey prior to enacting the laws. The High Court had emphasised the principle of adequate representation while striking down the laws. In the case on 10.5% internal quota for Vanniyars within the Most BCs of Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court had upheld the Madras High Court's conclusion that the reservation to the community under the 2021 Act was based on "antiquated data". Compilation and presentation of data would not mechanically pave the way for any increase in the quantum, let alone breaching the 50% cap. Analysis of features such as poverty, caste, occupation and location of residence should justify any move to increase the quantum. Besides, as in Article 16(4), only those communities inadequately represented in the public services can be given job quota. No political party should create an impression that a caste census will lead to increased OBC reservation. The Centre should also limit the ceiling of annual parental income in determining the creamy layer among OBCs. Else, only the most advanced sections among BCs will continue to corner the benefits of reservation.

Political meltdown

Germany seems set for an economic crisis amid political instability

The collapse of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's coalition in Germany last week has plunged Europe's largest and a recession-affected economy deeper into crisis. The three-way coalition, involving Mr. Scholz's Social Democrats, Greens and pro-market Free Democratic Party, was struggling for the past year to put up a united face amid public differences. As the economic crisis worsened, differences on a recovery also deepened, leading to Chancellor Scholz sacking his Finance Minister, Christian Lindner of the Free Democrats. While the Social Democrats and the Greens supported more borrowing and public spending to modernise and support industry and a shift towards environmental energy, Mr. Lindner advocated lower taxes and austerity measures. After Mr. Lindner's firing, his party colleagues quit the government. Infighting and economic challenges had already turned the government unpopular. All three parties in the coalition lost support in recent months, while the Conservatives and the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) saw a surge in opinion polls. Now that he has lost parliamentary majority, Mr. Scholz will have to depend on opposition parties to pass key policy measures, including the budget for 2025, through the Bundestag.

Mr. Scholz has so far resisted calls to face a vote of confidence quickly. Reports are that his plan is to run a minority government for a few more months. The Social Democrats say a collapse of the government at a time of multiple challenges would leave the country rudderless. But Mr. Scholz clinging on to power, heading an unpopular, minority government, is unlikely to resolve any of Germany's critical problems. The continuing war in Ukraine has hurt the German economy, which is set to contract for a second consecutive year. The country has also seen a large influx of migrants in recent years – over six million in a decade – which the far-right AfD has used to trigger panic in society and drum up support for itself. And the return of Donald Trump, who is sceptical of American support for Ukraine and NATO's role in general, is also a concern for Berlin. What Germany has to do is to bring in a decisive shift in its Ukraine policy, focusing on bringing the war to an end at the earliest through talks. And it should also take measures to pump-prime the economy and have policies to address the immigration challenge in a humanitarian fashion. Mr. Scholz, as a lame-duck Chancellor, is unlikely to take any decisive measure. What he can do is to face a vote of confidence immediately and prepare the country for snap elections.

The LAC agreement, the détentes and the questions

Suhasini Haidar

Two weeks after the surprise announcement of an India-China détente, and a summit on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit at Kazan on October 23, 2024 between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping sealed the deal, the exchange of sweets between soldiers of the Indian Army and the People's Liberation Army (PLA) at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) indicated that the two sides are willing to put the bitterness of the past four years behind them. If indeed that is possible, then the two have much to discuss in terms of restoring peace at the border, reversing economic restrictions on each other, allowing investment, visas and direct flights, and boosting trade and other interactions between each other.

No template or clarity

Work to disengage the two armies at Depsang and Demchok has been declared completed, while troop de-escalation and de-induction along the LAC still need to be agreed upon and will require verification on the ground and using satellite images. There is, however, no template of the agreement. Nor has the government given details of the new "patrolling arrangements" it has agreed to. Reports that the PLA has been granted access at Yangtse, the area on the Arunachal Pradesh boundary where it had attempted to transgress in 2022, have also not been explained by the government. Unfortunately, this lack of clarity is now part of a pattern.

From the start, when this daily had reported violent clashes at Pangong Tso on May 5-6, 2020, the government had erroneously maintained that there was no change in earlier troop levels. After the Galwan clashes, again of 2020, that left 20 Indian soldiers dead following brutal hand to hand combat using sticks and cudgels, Mr. Modi's comment on June 19, 2020, that "no one has transgressed India's borders, nor had any Indian border post been taken", raised more questions than answers. The statement, that has never been updated, was followed only by an interview Mr. Modi gave in May 2024 in which he said that the situation was a concern and that he hoped they could resolve the LAC standoff at the earliest. Nevertheless the impression has persisted that Chinese troops have pushed Indian troops further back into Indian territory, denying patrolling rights to soldiers and grazing rights to civilians, and had entrenched themselves in the disputed area with bunkers, helicopter landing pads and tents or settlements. With the buffer zones now created in different areas of disengagement, a full return to status quo ante 2020 is virtually impossible unless the zones are dismantled.

Going forward, it is necessary to answer three basic questions. Are the patrolling arrangements agreed to, new? In which case, will India and China now update past protocols as well as the Border Defence Cooperation Agreement of 2013 to reflect the reality of a new status quo? How does India avoid its fate after the Doklam agreement of 2017, where after disengagement, Chinese troops doubled down on infrastructure on the Doklam plateau upto the tri-junction area, making a return to their forward positions much easier at a later date? The most perplexing question that is still unanswered and which must be studied further is: why did Chinese troops amass and transgress along the LAC in 2020 at all?

> A democratically elected government needs to take its citizens into confidence about moves that have deep consequences

Theories on Chinese actions

While the government has been consistent in stating that it does not know the answer to that question, scholars have propounded at least four theories in the past few years. The first, that this is part of a larger Chinese policy, announced by Mr. Xi in 2014, to control "every inch of territory" belonging to China. This has led to aggressive moves by the Chinese military in several theatres: with Taiwan, with maritime shoals in the South China Sea; Doklam with Bhutan, and on the Tibet-India LAC in Ladakh, Sikkim, Doklam and Arunachal Pradesh. The second, that is a reminder from Beijing that as close as the partnership between India and the United States gets in the maritime sphere, India's continental realities including a 3,500 kilometre boundary with China will always be a primary concern. The third relates to a Chinese pushback against the increased infrastructure construction by India, beginning with the operationalisation of the air strip at Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) in 2008, to roads, bridges and border villages. China's specific security vulnerabilities over Xinjiang as well as plans to connect Tibet-Xinjiang by a railway line and the G695 highway through Aksai Chin, and the start of a Karakoram-2 Highway to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir are further reasons for this theory. It is another matter that if this was a Chinese goal, it backfired as India has sped up its construction of highways, tunnels and border villages on its side of the LAC more than ever before in the past five years.

While all three theories could, individually or together, account for China's actions, it is the fourth theory that possibly accounts for the timing of the PLA's deliberate moves across four points of the LAC in April-May 2020 – that is, as a reaction to India's moves to reorganise Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019. These were followed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah's assertion in Parliament that India would take back Aksai Chin from Chinese occupation. It should be remembered that in the aftermath of the moves of August 5, 2019, China was the only country to issue two separate statements of protest – one dealing with the change of status quo and United Nations resolutions in Jammu-Kashmir, and the second, in more stern language, dealing with the changes in Ladakh that Beijing called "Chinese territory" and warning India against "any move that may further complicate the boundary question". Within a week, India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar hot footed to Beijing to explain the inherently "internal" nature of the changes which did not change India's external boundaries or negotiations. He also invited Mr. Xi for the retreat in Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu, a month later, among the last of 18 formal Modi-Xi meetings in five years, until their meeting this year in Kazan. The third Chinese response, in November 2019, was to the publication of new Indian maps delineating the boundaries, which may well have been the lynchpin for the timing of China's subsequent actions – amassing along the LAC and transgressing into Indian territory as soon as the snows melted along the LAC.

It is therefore significant that the agreement with China last month came after three other détentes. The first was the holding of elections in Jammu and Kashmir, which is expected to be followed by the roll-back to Statehood status, as well as possibly a reversal in terms of more powers transferred to the State. The next was the détente with Ladakhi protesters led by climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who ended their mass hunger fast on an assurance by the Home Ministry that a high-powered committee would discuss their demands for Statehood, tribal status, employment guarantees for locals, and Parliament seats for Leh and Ladakh, with a meeting set for December. Finally, there was the opening with Pakistan, through Mr. Jaishankar's visit to Islamabad to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) conference in October. While no substantive agreements were made, Mr. Jaishankar's presence in person by itself was the message, given that the Modi government has handled other such SCO Ministerial meetings virtually. It remains to be seen whether the next few months will see other openings, including a rollback by Pakistan of trade, rail and road link bans that it implemented in 2019.

Need for government transparency

If there is a larger purpose to restoring sustainable peace and tranquillity at the India-China border, then New Delhi must begin by restoring some transparency to its plans for the future of the ultra-sensitive sub-region at its northern peripheries. A thorough enquiry of events at the LAC, and the lessons learnt from China's unexpected transgressions and India's response, are merited. Domestically, it may be time to acknowledge that the "shock and awe" method of surprise announcements has run its course, whether it is in terms of escalation or de-escalation. While a one-party rule hegemonistic entity such as China may choose a different path, it behoves a democratically elected government to take its citizens into confidence about moves that have such deep consequences.

suhasini.h@thehindu.co.in

Giving shape to India's carbon credit mechanism

Shashank Pandey

Research Fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

The Conference of Parties-29, from November 11 to 22, 2024, in Baku, Azerbaijan, is about to shift focus to the heated discussion on the aspect of climate finance again. An essential component of this discussion will be the carbon credits framework and disagreements over it between developed and developing countries. India updated its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in 2023 to underline, among other things, the establishment of a domestic carbon market as a part of its climate strategy. The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act of 2022 provided a statutory mandate for such a Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS). Through this, India aims to align its climate commitments under the Paris Agreement with broader economic goals. Yet, for the market to truly support these objectives, it must be meticulously designed to ensure credibility, efficiency, and fairness. From global experiences, India must incorporate two pivotal lessons in its carbon market framework for long-term success.

Upholding integrity of carbon credits

At the heart of any carbon market lies the integrity of its carbon credits. The global experience has seen the repercussions of inadequate accountability in credit generation, leading to instances of greenwashing. This issue is pronounced in the voluntary carbon market (VCM), where investigations have exposed overstatements of project benefits, especially within the forestry sector. A similar risk is feared in India's voluntary carbon market operationalised under the Green Credit Programme (GCP). The tree plantation guidelines released by the government under the GCP were criticised for perpetuating greenwashing by encouraging non-scientific tree plantation. It is also feared that under the CCTS, projects may fail to ensure "additionality", a critical measure ensuring that emission reductions exceed those of a business-as-usual scenario.

To navigate these challenges, India must enforce rigorous protocols to verify the authenticity of generated carbon credits. A proposed national registry would be a robust mechanism to track carbon credits and address potential double-counting issues. Additionally, independent third-party verifiers can play a crucial role in assessing the additionality and permanence of carbon reduction projects. By emulating international best practices from entities such as the IETA or Gold Standard that have greatly emphasised the generation of carbon credits, India can cultivate a high-integrity market, attracting domestic and global investors.

> India's carbon credit mechanism needs to be aligned with international and domestic realities if it is to be effective

Alignment with global standards

India's carbon market must also harmonise with international carbon trading mechanisms, notably Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Article 6.2 facilitates countries in achieving their climate objectives through Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs), making compliance a critical aspect for participating nations. The Article 6 rulebook, finalised at the COP26 summit in Glasgow, outlines how countries can engage in carbon trading while upholding environmental integrity.

For India, this means incorporating mechanisms to prevent the double counting of credits, a crucial step to maintain the credibility of global emission reduction efforts. India can align its market with domestic and international standards by integrating transparent systems for accounting emissions reductions and carbon credit transfers. Such alignment and a focus on global best practices will enable India to contribute to global emissions reductions while actively safeguarding national interests.

One of the critical aspects is ensuring environmental integrity, specifically under Article 6.2, which establishes a framework for countries to cooperate on climate mitigation efforts through international carbon markets. The World Bank's "Ensuring Environmental Integrity under Article 6 Mechanisms" report emphasised maintaining robust environmental integrity within carbon markets, especially under the Paris Agreement's Article 6 framework. It highlights that carbon markets risk double-counting emissions reductions without stringent safeguards, which can dilute the credibility of climate commitments. The report stressed that high governance, verification, and accountability standards are necessary to avoid "low-quality" carbon credits from entering the market.

Focus on disclosure

Ensuring transparency is one mechanism to ensure compliance and conformance with such standards. To enhance transparency and uphold environmental integrity within India's carbon credit system, it is imperative to have comprehensive disclosure of project details, including carbon reduction techniques, benchmarks and third-party verification reports, on a centralised, easily accessible platform. Ensuring that projects adhere to stringent additionality criteria guarantees that the credits reflect real, additional emissions reductions. Regular audits are essential for verifying the sustainability of these projects. Oversight by independent auditors approved by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in India is crucial, alongside real-time tracking of credit transactions to boost accountability and provide insights into the type of projects and their environmental impacts.

The Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI) framework introduces a tiered system for companies to assess carbon credit claims. This is to ensure the credibility of carbon offset claims, aiming to enhance market transparency. However, implementation faces challenges, especially within India's CCTS initiatives, due to potential transparency issues and the high costs of establishing monitoring, reporting, and verification systems. These costs could deter smaller projects initially.

India's carbon credit mechanism, albeit nascent, demands stringent enforcement and an alignment with international and domestic realities to be effective. By focusing on transparency and integrity, India has the opportunity to not only provide for a more mature carbon market but also to stimulate its climate finance aspirations, paving the way for practical, sustainable development.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Himalayan journey

The Char Dham Yatra is not just a religious endeavour but also a journey of Himalayan exploration. As one who has been on this route twice, I have been at the receiving end of mismanagement of the whole exercise at not only the Char Dhams but also on the entire route. The amenities for traveller support are meagre — poor restroom facilities, unreliable medical aid, unhygienic food and scanty lodging. In addition to these, there is rash and reckless traffic. A trouble-free, peaceful and safe journey is the right of every person who ventures to the high altitudes to pay obeisance to the *devathathma* Himalaya.

Anand Kunhunny,
Chevayur, Kozhikode, Kerala

Delhi Ganesh

A few years ago, in a wedding reception hall, I noticed guests casting a glance at the person seated next to me. Curiosity got the better of me and it was Delhi Ganesh! Unassuming and simple, the great actor floored me when he stood up and humbly said, 'I am related to the bride's dad.'

Sivamani Vasudevan,
Chennai

Ending discrimination in prisons

On October 3, the Supreme Court in *Sukanya Shantha v. Union of India* (2024) reaffirmed the principle of non-discrimination in Indian prisons. The rules in jail manuals segregating prisoners based on caste was at the heart of this challenge. They were struck down for perpetuating caste discrimination and violating the fundamental rights of prisoners. Previously too, courts have often set aside prison rules that classified prisoners and treated them differently. Where the basis was either irrational, arbitrary, or a prohibited ground, it could not withstand the scrutiny of the equality code under Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution.

R.K. Vij
Former Indian Police Service officer. Views are personal.

Shivani Vij
Lawyer practising in Delhi

No arbitrary segregation

A distinction based on social status of prisoners was dealt with by the Supreme Court in *Prem Shankar Shukla v. Delhi Administration* (1980). The Punjab Police Rules distinguished under-trial prisoners as 'better class' and 'ordinary'. Only the 'better class' were exempted from wearing handcuffs. The Court reasoned that it was completely irrational for the state to assume that an indigent prisoner was more dangerous to the society than an affluent one. Economic and social considerations could not be the basis for classifying prisoners for the purposes of handcuffs. The provisions were held to be unconstitutional.

The Bombay High Court in *Inacio Manuel Miranda v. State* (1988) was faced with a different type of segregation affecting the prisoners' right to write in prison. The Goa, Daman and Diu Prisoners Rules treated prisoners differently for writing welfare letters. 'Class-I prisoners' could write four letters per month, but 'Class-II prisoners' could only write two. This was held unreasonable and discriminatory, affecting the convict's right to be treated equally in their freedom of expression. The Court followed its previous decision in *Madhukar Bhagwan Jambhale v. State of Maharashtra* (1984) where a prohibition on writing letters to co-prisoners, imposed by the Maharashtra Prison Rules, was struck down as having no logical basis and unduly inhibiting the prisoners' constitutional rights.

A principle that resonated with the Court was that the prison itself could not strip the prisoners of rights they would otherwise be entitled to. Non-discrimination was one such right. The most recent decision of the Supreme Court in *Sukanya Shantha* brought about the starkest case of prison segregation. Here, caste hierarchy was the basis of classification for labour inside prisons. This meant that only prisoners of certain 'marginalised castes' were given cleaning and sweeping jobs, and others were given jobs like cooking. The State Prison Rules stated that these castes were "accustomed to performing such duties". This classification had no connection with the individual ability or qualification of the prisoner and did not aid reformation. It perpetuated caste identity and prevented an equal opportunity to reform. The State Prison Rules and similar executive decisions were therefore set aside as discriminatory under Articles 14 and 15, with directions to the States to undertake amends.

The way forward

In another case, three petitions came before the Calcutta High Court, which were decided together in August 2012 (*Gaur Narayan Chakraborty and Others*). The main issue before the Court was whether Maoists who were waging a war against the state using arms, and who were charged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, and other special statutes, could be treated as political prisoners. The trial court had rejected this demand of the petitioners in accordance with the West Bengal Correctional Services (WBCS) Act, 1992, on the premise that they were members of a banned terrorist organisation, and their activities were not for the common good of the people, but for the revolution with arms.

However, the High Court, after discussing municipal and international viewpoints on the political offences and interpreting the WBCS Act on the classification of prisoners, reached the conclusion that "the believers of any kind of political movement are to be acknowledged as political prisoners and thus, it cannot be held that those who participate in unlawful activities cannot be recognised as political prisoners".

Though the Supreme Court did not have occasion to decide the special leave petition arising from this decision on merit, the Calcutta High Court's judgment is significant for highlighting a similar right of prisoners to be treated in a dignified manner.

The High Court noticed that a person classified as a political prisoner is entitled to a few amenities, such as a chair, table, light, iron cot, mattress, pillow, blanket, and mirror. He is entitled to cooking, services of a barber, writing material, and a newspaper, and is also permitted to receive books from his relatives. These facilities are a part of the basic human rights to which every prisoner ought to be entitled. The Court said these amenities should not be restricted to political prisoners. It suggested that the state administration re-look into the classification of prisoners and provide basic amenities to all. A slight improvement in the living conditions of prisoners in itself would erode the classification which the WBCS Act acknowledges.

While the Supreme Court's recent judgment did away with caste discrimination inside prisons, incorporating basic amenities in prisons by suitably amending the Model Prison Manual 2016 will not only blur other distinctions, but will also ensure a minimum dignified life inside prisons.

While the Supreme Court did away with caste discrimination in prisons, incorporating basic amenities in prisons by Amending the Model Prison Manual 2016 will ensure a minimum dignified life inside prisons

A litmus test for Marathas

The Marathas may find it difficult to retain their socio-political domination

STATE OF PLAY

Harish Wankhede

If the Mahayuti wins the upcoming Assembly elections in Maharashtra, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) gets more seats, a non-Maratha leader could become the Chief Minister, thus challenging the historical hegemony of the Maratha elite.

The BJP has channelised the idea of 'Subaltern Hindutva' that focuses on mobilising Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Dalits as the claimants of political power. This may create a new challenge to the Maratha domination in the State. However, the prospects of this shift translating into greater political agency for the marginalised communities remain tenuous.

The Marathas are not only facing challenges in electoral democracy; in other spheres too, their conventional domination is dwindling. The Marathas have constituted approximately 50% of the State Assembly's elected members, with around 80 seats never won by non-Maratha candidates. Their dominance extends to key economic sectors, including education, banking, and agriculture.

However, since the 1990s, there has been a decline in this hegemonic status, exacerbated by the Congress's waning influence and the rise of right-wing parties such as the Shiv Sena and BJP. This fragmentation has resulted in the dispersal of Maratha voters across multiple political parties, diluting their once unassailable political clout.

Importantly, the emergence of new political forces, mainly the BJP, has facilitated the rise of other social groups, particularly among OBCs and

certain sections of Scheduled Castes, who now challenge the Maratha dominance. The BJP's strategic OBC mobilisation has further complicated the traditional power dynamics, positioning the party as a viable alternative for the non-Maratha voters and simultaneously presenting Brahmins leaders, such as Nitin Gadkari and Devendra Fadanvis, as the influential claimants to top political seats.

The Maratha identity is far from monolithic; it encompasses various castes and classes, with notable distinctions between the 'elite' Gadivarcha Maratha, the 'middle-class' Ghodyawarcha Maratha, and the 'impoverished' Garib Maratha. While the elite group has historically monopolised political and economic power, the middle-class Marathas have experienced a decline in socioeconomic mobility due to a growing agrarian crises, commercialisation of agricultural land, and urban migration. Simultaneously, the assertive resurgence of Dalit social movements presents a formidable challenge to Maratha supremacy at the rural spheres. As Dalits gain visibility through cultural and civil society initiatives, they confront the Maratha elite.

The Garib Maratha, primarily engaged in marginal farming and informal employment, share socioeconomic challenges with other marginalised groups such as Dalits and Muslims. Although Marathas fare better than other groups in socioeconomic indicators, the recent surge in mobilisations for reservations underscores a growing recognition of their economic vulnerabilities and growing class inequalities. Neoliberal economic reforms have particularly affected the middle-class Marathas, pushing many towards poverty due to rising agricultural distress and inadequate urban employment opportunities. However, rather than fostering solidarity to demand substantive affirmative action policies for their empowerment, it often aligns with a unified Maratha identity that perpetuates caste pride and sometimes turns against other marginalised communities. The recent mobilisation to claim reservation is an outcome of such anxieties that the vulnerable sections amongst the Marathas are experiencing.

The Marathas are the most influential political and social actors in Maharashtra politics. However, in the post-liberalisation period, their domination witnessed new challenges. The rise of multi-party democracy, of democratic consciousness among the marginalised social groups (like Kunbis and OBCs), and the growing agrarian crises have disturbed the domination of the conventional Maratha ruling elites. Further, the non-Maratha aspirational class has found an accommodative space in right-wing political parties, thus creating a political challenge to the conventional authority of the Marathas. The Assembly election is going to be a difficult test for the Marathas to retain their socio-political domination.

Harish S. Wankhede is Assistant Professor at JNU

Germany opens doors to skilled Indians amid global visa cuts

The number of skilled Indian workers in Germany has increased to 1.3 lakh from 23,000 a decade ago

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

While countries such as Australia, Canada, and the U.S. are limiting or planning to limit visas for immigrant workers, Germany is planning to increase them. This is good news for Indians, who already make up the largest group of foreign residents in Germany, both as students and workers.

Australia recently decided to tighten regulations on temporary work visas to ensure that locals are not overlooked for employment opportunities. It is also planning to cap the number of incoming students, particularly to ease pressure on housing. Last month, Canada announced that it would reduce study permits and tighten work permits, with the issue of temporary residents becoming a highly contentious topic in the country's political landscape. In the U.S., during Donald Trump's first presidency, the H-1B visa approval rate sharply dropped to 72%, down from over 95% during Barack Obama's tenure. Now, with Mr. Trump back as President, there is again uncertainty.

In contrast, Germany decided last month to increase the annual number of visas granted to skilled Indian workers from 20,000 to 90,000. This move, according to documents published by Germany's Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, is driven by two key factors: scarcity of skilled workers in fields such as science, engineering, and healthcare; and a demographic shift, with every second person in Germany over the age of 45 and one in five over 67.

India, with its large pool of young skilled workers, has much to offer and is already making a significant impact. In 2023, India led countries in Germany's first-time issuance of temporary residence permits for labour and educational migration. As of February this year, nearly 1,30,000 Indians held jobs subject to social security contributions in the German labour market, including 44,000 women. This marks a nearly 500% increase from around 23,000 Indians a decade ago **(Chart 1).**

Most Indian immigrants in Germany hold a degree or similar qualification, with 16% working at the specialist level and 37% at the expert level. Consequently, the unemployment rate among Indians in Germany was half the national average in 2023. In contrast, in 2015, the unemployment rate among Indians was higher than the national average **(Chart 2).**

A significant proportion of Indians work in STEM jobs, which are vital for Germany's economic development. Approximately 19% are employed in Information and Communication, around 18% in professional, scientific, and technical services, and 14% in manufacturing **(Chart 3).** With Germany facing an acute shortage of IT professionals, the share of Indian IT workers is likely to increase.

Given their high qualifications and work in sectors with labour shortages, Indian nationals earn on average 41% more than the median pay for full-time employees in Germany (€5,359 compared to €3,796), as seen in **Chart 4**.

The number of Indian students in Germany has also surged. Indians make up the largest group of foreign students in the 2023-24 winter semester, totalling 49,000, with 30% being women. Nearly 80% of these students are at the master's level, with a substantial portion enrolled in STEM courses.

Charts 5 and 6 illustrate that a majority (60%) of Indian students are enrolled in engineering programmes. In contrast, only 23% of German students are in this field, with most German nationals studying law, economics, or social sciences. Only 1.5% of Indian students are enrolled in humanities, with over 10% of German nationals doing so.

Indians in high demand

Charts were sourced from 'Skilled Labour Strategy: India' published by Germany's Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Chart 1: Indians in jobs subject to social security contributions in Germany since 2015 (in February of each year)

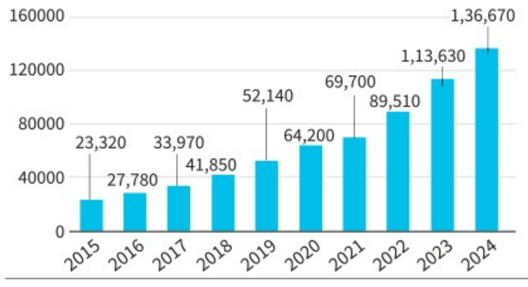


Chart 2: Trend in unemployment rates in Germany by nationality since 2015

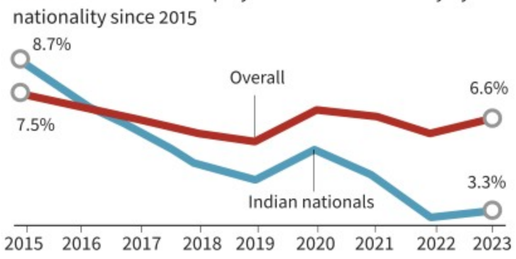


Chart 3: Distribution by sector of Indian nationals in jobs subject to social security contributions (2023)

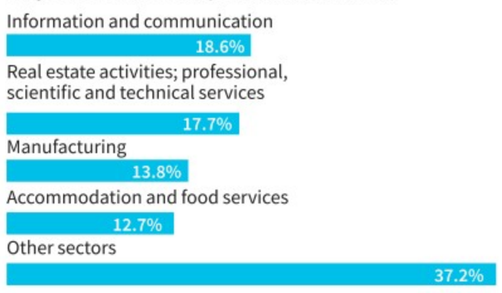
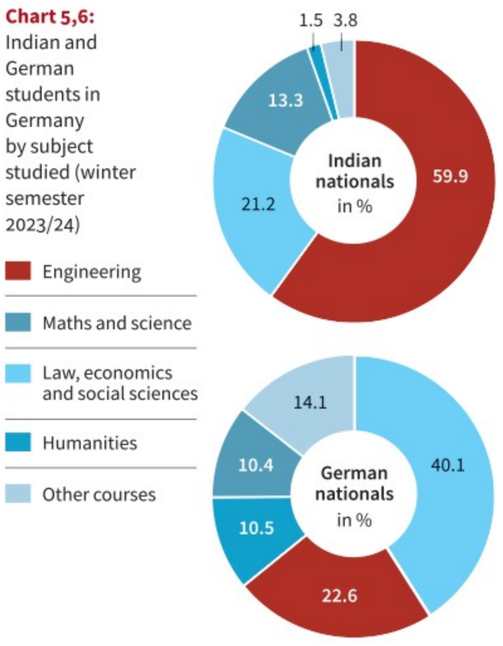


Chart 4: Median pay of full-time employees in jobs subject to social security contributions in Germany, by nationality (2023)

Chart 5,6: Indian and German students in Germany by subject studied (winter semester 2023/24)



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 12, 1974

U.S. and other countries sounded on food imports

New Delhi, Nov. 11: Mr. A.P. Shinde, Minister of State for Agriculture, told the Lok Sabha to-day that the Government had approached the United States and a number of other countries for foodgrain imports. "It would not be right to stand on false prestige," he added.

"I don't think there is any cause for panic at all," he said, commenting on the food situation in the country. "We feel confident of facing the situation."

Replying to a volley of questions on food imports, Mr. Shinde said that the world food situation was "somewhat difficult." India had approached Canada, Australia, the European Economic Community, the U.K. and the USA. While a specific response from the U.S. was still awaited, offers had been received from other countries.

For the better part of the question hour on the opening day of the Lok Sabha winter session, the Minister was closely questioned on the prospect of imports and the food situation in the country.

Asked by Mr. S.N. Mishra (Cong-O) whether the Government stood by its statement that India would not import grains on concessional terms from the U.S., Mr. Shinde said: "As the position of the country stands to-day—our foreign exchange position, the problem posed by the energy crisis and our requirements—I think it would not be right to stand on false prestige."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 12, 1924

Bombay salt department.

Bombay, Nov. 11: The Government review on the administration of the Bombay Salt Department as a preliminary step to the assumption by the Government of India full control over the Salt Department in the Bombay presidency states that the doubling of salt duty from 1st March 1923 for a year had the inevitable effect on trade. Both increase and subsequent reduction were anticipated by the wholesale dealers with the result that the removal of salt from the depots was stimulated before the increase and after removal and trade remained depressed for 12 months during which the higher duty was in force. The rise in duty brought in an increase in amounts received and a fall in the quantity of salt removed.

From Page One

10 militants killed by CRPF in Manipur clash

"Reinforcement teams consisting of Assam Rifles, CRPF, and civil police have been rushed there," the police said, adding that a criminal case had been registered.

Demands probe

Soon after the incident, the Kuki-Zo Council called for a "total shutdown" from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday "in honour of the victims and to express our collective grief and solidarity [to those] who were brutally shot dead".

The council demanded an immediate and thorough investigation "to bring the perpetrators to justice".

The Jiribam district authorities issued prohibitory orders amid apprehension of a breakdown of law and order.

An order by District Magistrate Krishna Kumar said there is "an apprehension of widespread disturbance to peace and public tranquillity or a riot or any affray in the area and grave danger to human lives and properties because of the unlawful activities of some anti-social elements for furtherance of their evil designs".

Earlier in the day, three persons were injured in two separate incidents of firing.

In the first incident in Imphal East district, suspected extremists opened fire, prompting the security personnel to retaliate. A villager, who went to harvest paddy along with some others, was injured.

The injured, a Tangkhul Naga tribal identified as 35-year-old Kangso Horam, was rushed to a primary health centre before being shifted to Imphal's Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital where his condition is said to be stable.

Two others were injured in another incident in Bishnupur district.

Last week, a 31-year-old tribal woman was killed during an attack on Jiribam district's Zairawn Hmar village by armed assailants. At least a dozen houses were reduced to ashes in the attack.

The ethnic conflict between the non-tribal Meitei and the tribal Kuki-Zo communities since May 3, 2023, has claimed more than 260 lives and displaced some 60,000 others.

UN raises alarm as climate talks begin

New WMO data showed that current global warming is about 1.3 degrees Celsius higher than the average of the previous 10 years, compared to 1.2 degrees Celsius a year ago, and the current year is hotter by 1.54 degrees Celsius, compared to 1.45 degrees Celsius a year ago.

While Mr. Trump, who is president-elect of the world's biggest economy, has repeatedly cast doubts on climate change, wars in West Asia and Ukraine, among other crises, have strained climate diplomacy. These could impact the chances of increasing climate finance and agreeing on rules around it, which are among the primary goals of COP-29, which is being labelled "finance COP". Mr. Trump has threatened to pull the U.S. out of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which he did during his first term, but the move was later reversed by President Joseph Biden. The Paris Agreement, for the first time, had global leaders commit to limiting global warming to a specific number – under 2 degrees Celsius, or better still, to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times.

Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, appealed to the "largest and wealthiest" nations that such financing is in their "self-interest". "Let us dispense with any idea that climate finance is charity. An ambitious new climate finance goal is entirely in the self-interest of every nation, including the largest and wealthiest."

The talks aim to increase the current $100 billion-a-year climate target to help developing nations address worsening climate impacts.

Parties keep up attack as Phase 1 Jharkhand campaign concludes

43 of the 81 Assembly constituencies in the State will vote tomorrow; polling will also be held for byelections in 31 Assembly constituencies across country; no polling for two Sikkim seats as ruling Sikkim Krantikari Morcha wins them uncontested

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Campaign ended on Monday for Phase I of the Jharkhand Assembly election and byelections in 31 Assembly constituencies and the high-profile Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency in Kerala where Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is making her electoral debut. As the ruling Sikkim Krantikari Morcha won uncontested, the need for polling was obviated in two vacant Assembly constituencies in the State.

In Jharkhand, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah raised the pitch on the last day of campaign. While Mr. Modi launched an all-out attack on the Congress, JMM and RJD, the Home Minister said a committee would be formed if the BJP forms the government in Jharkhand to identify and drive out infiltrators from the State.

The Prime Minister accused the Congress of talking big but failing to deliver on its promises. He slammed Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for his remarks that his party had given "false guarantees" to the people.

During campaign, the BJP had alleged that the JMM-led government had allowed "Bangladeshi infiltrators" into Jharkhand, changing the demography in tribal areas, a charge denied by the INDIA bloc. The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, and Mr. Kharge had raised the issue of the need for a caste census.

Last-minute appeal: Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren arriving in Ranchi on Monday to address a public meeting, ahead of the Assembly election. PTI

FIR against BJP unit

An FIR was lodged in Ranchi against the BJP's Jharkhand unit on Monday for alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct and legal provisions, Election Commission sources said. The Congress had complained against "false and misleading" videos on the "BJP 4 Jharkhand" social media handle against INDIA bloc leaders.

A total of 43 of the 81 Assembly constituencies in the State will vote on November 13, while the rest will go to the polls on November 20. Seraikella, Ranchi, Jamshedpur West, Jaganathpur and Jamshedpur East are witnessing gripping contests. Former Chief Minister and BJP candidate Champai Soren is contesting from Seraikella, while Jamshedpur East will see a face off between Ajoy Kumar of the Congress, who once served as the Superintendent of Police of Jamshedpur, and Purnima Das Sahu, daughter-in-law of former Jharkhand Chief Minister and current Odisha Governor Raghubar Das.

In the high-octane campaign in Wayanad, Mr. Gandhi joined his sister, Ms. Vadra, on the last day of the campaign.

In West Bengal, where byelections are taking place in six Assembly constituencies, the ruling Trinamool Congress was engaged in a war of words with the EC. The poll panel issued notice to Sukanta Majumdar, BJP State president, over alleged remarks made by him insulting the national emblem even as it rejected allegations made by the Trinamool of a "delay" in response. The poll body asserted that it had acted within 20 hours of receiving the complaints.

In a letter to Trinamool leader Derek O'Brien, the EC said it was "surprising" that even after prompt action, there has been "unwarranted comments of delay".

Review cases of terminated employees in J&K: Mufti

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday asked Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to establish a review committee for all employees terminated during Central rule in J&K.

In a letter to Mr. Abdullah, Ms. Mufti pitched for conducting "fair and thorough reviews of each case, allowing individuals or their families to present their side". "Develop clear guidelines to prevent similar issues in the future, mandating full inquiry and legal oversight before any dismissal," she said.

She highlighted the case of Nazir Ahmad Wani, a tehsildar from Pulwama who faced dismissal under Article 311 and was arrested under UAPA.

"Despite being acquitted of all charges, Wani's prolonged ordeal took a toll on his health, leading to his death from cardiac arrest on October 27 this year. His family, now left without his support, is also facing significant bureaucratic delays in accessing his pension and entitlements," Ms. Mufti said.

NIA searches premises 'linked to' al-Qaeda

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday carried out searches at nine locations across five States and one Union Territory in connection with the alleged activities promoted by some Bangladeshi nationals, as part of the banned terror group al-Qaeda's conspiracy to "destabilise" India.

The crackdown began early in the morning when multiple teams searched the premises linked to individuals suspected of supporting al-Qaeda in Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, West Bengal, Bihar, Tripura, and Assam.

"The searches led to the recovery of incriminating documents showing detailed banking transactions, digital devices, including mobile phones, and other evidence related to terror funding activities," said the agency.

Trial reforms, promoting mediation among new Chief Justice's priorities

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Justice Sanjiv Khanna, who took oath as the 51st Chief Justice of India on Monday, said the core principles of the judiciary was to provide equal treatment, fair opportunity at justice to all and unbiased adjudication to all, regardless of status, wealth or power.

Chief Justice Khanna, in an official statement released by the Supreme Court, said judges had a "constitutional duty to ensure easy access to justice to all citizens of our great nation".

"Judiciary is an integral, yet distinct and independent part of the governance system. The Constitution trusts upon us the role of constitutional guardian, protector of fundamental rights, and responsibility to fulfil the important task of being service provider of justice," Chief Justice Khanna said.

He underscored the judiciary's commitment and responsibility as "protectors of citizens' rights and dispute resolvers".

President Droupadi Murmu administering the oath of office to Justice Sanjiv Khanna at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Monday. PTI

The Chief Justice identified his top priorities as making judgments comprehensible to the citizens, promotion of mediation, adoption of focused reforms in criminal case management such as reducing trial duration and efforts to make litigation less gruelling. He termed the judiciary the "third wing of democracy".

Chief Justice Khanna was administered the oath of office by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The short but impressive ceremony saw Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Ministers, former Chief Justices of India, and sitting and retired judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts in attendance.

Six-month tenure

Justice Khanna succeeds Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, and is scheduled to retire on May 13, 2025.

After being sworn in, Chief Justice Khanna acknowledged the gathered audience before travelling to the Supreme Court to hear the 47 cases listed at Court One – as the Chief Justice's court is called.

Next door, in Court Two, where he had presided for months before his appointment as the Chief Justice, hangs the life-size portrait of his uncle, the legendary Justice H.R. Khanna, whose championing of personal liberty during the dark days of Emergency in 1977 cost him his Chief Justiceship of India. The story of the elder Justice Khanna still resonates as activists and citizens booked under draconian laws struggle for bail.

The Chief Justice, in the statement, identified case backlogs, making litigation affordable and accessible, and the need for simplifying complex legal procedures as the key challenges ahead of him during his six-month tenure.

Trial in R.G. Kar murder case begins in Kolkata court

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Almost three months after the rape and murder of a doctor at the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, trial in the case began on Monday at a court in Kolkata. The in-camera trial is being held at the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sealdah, Anirban Das.

The chargesheet against a civil police volunteer Sanjay Roy was filed by the CBI earlier this month. Roy was arrested by the Kolkata Police on August 10. The Calcutta High Court had transferred investigation in the case to the CBI.

During the day, the accused was brought before the court. The CBI has also arrested the former principal of R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, Sandip Ghosh, and ex-officer in charge of the Tala police station for tampering with evidence in the case.

Abdullah eyes return of twin capital system, holds meeting of Ministers, officials in Jammu

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

In a bid to revive the twin capital system in Jammu and Kashmir, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers and officials at the Secretariat in Jammu, which has acted as the winter capital in the past.

It was Mr. Abdullah's first official visit to the Jammu Secretariat after taking office as the Chief Minister in Srinagar on October 16. Mr. Abdullah decided to reach Jammu by road after poor visibility at the Jammu airport resulted in flight disruptions.

Omar Abdullah

"I engaged in a brief discussion with my Cabinet colleagues and senior party leaders at my office in Jammu. It was a productive meeting," he said.

The Chief Minister was given a rousing welcome. He visited the chambers of his Ministers to formally welcome them, "reflecting his commitment to fostering a collaborative working environment", a government spokesperson said.

Mr. Abdullah also inspected the construction of the new Assembly Complex, which is likely to see a long Assembly session in January.

The annual practice of shifting capitals between Srinagar and Jammu, also known as the Darbar Move, was suspended by the Lieutenant-Governor administration in 2020.

There are growing voices in Jammu to revive the Darbar Move, which also acts as a cross-cultural bridge between the two distinct regions of the Union Territory. Official sources said it is likely to be restored formally next year.

Australia Today clarifies ban was by Meta platforms, not Canada govt.

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The Australian media portal at the centre of a storm between India and Canada clarified on Monday that it had not been "selectively blocked" by the Canadian government as alleged earlier.

In a statement responding to a denial issued by the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the portal, which focuses on Indian diaspora issues, said it was "not aware" that Meta platforms Facebook and Instagram had decided not to broadcast all news content on its sites in Canada due to a dispute over Canada's "Online News Act" since 2023.

However, it alleged that an unnamed "Khalistani propaganda" news site remained accessible on Canadian Facebook and Instagram, leading to its assumption that there had been "selective blocking" of its site. Based on *Australia Today's* allegations, the Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson had said last week that these were "actions which yet again highlight the hypocrisy of Canada towards freedom of speech".

The portal said it was unaware that Meta platforms had decided not to broadcast its content in Canada. REUTERS

While the Canadian government denied blocking any site and the portal itself has clarified it, the Ministry declined to make any comment on the issue on Monday. When asked, officials pointed to the *Australia Today* statement, issued by its managing editor, Jitarth Jai Bharadwaj.

"We acknowledge the recent statement from the Canadian Foreign Ministry and would like to clarify that we first learned that users in Canada were unable to access our Facebook and Instagram pages shortly after publishing our interview with Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar," Mr. Bharadwaj said. "Before this, we were not aware of any issues regarding the accessibility of *The Australia Today* content in Canada on Meta platforms."

On Sunday, the Canadian Foreign Ministry had issued a sharp rebuttal to the allegations.

"*Australia Today* has never been banned in Canada. The news site and video of media comments by both India's Foreign Minister Jaishankar and Australia's Foreign Minister Wong, can be easily and freely viewed in Canada. In Canada, Meta, which owns and operates Facebook and Instagram, blocked the sharing of news content on their sites, irrespective of the outlet," it said.

Delhi riots: SC asks HC to consider bail plea by activist

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to entertain a plea for bail by 31-year-old activist Gulfisha Fatima, who has been incarcerated under the UAPA for four years and seven months in relation to the North East Delhi riots of February 2020, and asked the Delhi High Court to consider her plea on November 25.

Ms. Fatima was accused under the draconian law of having played a part in the larger conspiracy behind the Delhi riots of 2020. A Bench of Justices Bela M. Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma found no reason to intervene.

Officials checked my bag, Uddhav says at poll rally

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray on Monday said authorities had checked his bag when he arrived in Vidarbha's Yavatmal to campaign for the Maharashtra Assembly election.

Speaking at a public meeting in Wani, Mr. Thackeray questioned if the election authorities would apply the same scrutiny to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior leaders from the ruling alliance.

He said that upon his arrival by helicopter in Wani, several government officials inspected his bag. He then urged his supporters to similarly check the pockets and identity cards of those conducting such inspections.

Criticising what he described as 'undemocratic behaviour', he said that those were senseless practices.

Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray addressing a public meeting on Sunday. PTI

BJP and allies are distorting history, says Sule

NCP(SP) MP Supriya Sule on Monday accused the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies of rampant corruption and disrespecting Maharashtra's historical icons while promoting "distorted" versions of history.

Interacting with presspersons in Pune, she said the BJP and its allies had no substantial issues to discuss concerning the Opposition. "They have nothing left to use against us," she said.

She said BJP leaders frequently insulted revered figures such as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Shahu Maharaj, Mahatma Phule and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. "They have continuously shown disrespect towards these icons and are pushing a distorted history," Ms. Sule alleged.

"First nation, then caste. Rahul, how much will you divide? These are the divisive people, who discriminate and divide for political gain

SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN
Union Minister

JMM's manifesto focuses on job quota, education

The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) on Monday released its manifesto promising 33% reservation to women in State government jobs. The manifesto, unveiled by party supremo Shibu Soren, focuses on nine areas, including agriculture, education and the rights of residents. PTI

"Non-biological PM .... has denied almost ₹1.4 lakh crores which is legitimately due to Jharkhand on account of coal royalty

JARIAM RAMESH
Congress leader

Tug of war: Within the larger narrative, are fights for the legacy of Balasaheb Thackeray, and another Sena satrap, Anand Dighe. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Legacy battles add intriguing twist to the tale of two Senas

Nistula Hebbar
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra Assembly election is not just an electoral reckoning but is also a test to authenticate, through victory and defeat, which party is the real Shiv Sena – the one led by former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray or the other helmed by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Within this larger narrative of "Sena vs Sena" is the piquant presence of Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena as well as the legacy of Balasaheb Thackeray and another Shiv Sena satrap, Anand Dighe. Dighe, former Thane chief of the Shiv Sena considered the mentor of Mr. Shinde, passed away in 2001. He has grown in iconic status with the ascent of Mr. Shinde to chief ministership. Mr. Shinde invokes Dighe as the personification of the virtues of a Shiv Sainik, Hindutva advocate, Marathi *Manoos*, strongman, and populist and all values that came from a loyal adherence to the leadership of Bal Thackeray. These are the values, Mr. Shinde feels, betrayed by Bal Thackeray's son, Mr. Uddhav Thackeray, by tying up with the Congress. Posters of the Shiv Sena (Shinde) always carry pictures of Bal Thackeray and Dighe.

A two-part film, *Dharamveer*, on the life of Dighe is playing in cinemas in Mumbai, with a prominent role accorded to the character of Mr. Shinde as the true inheritor of a Shiv Sainik's virtues. In this scenario, two contests, therefore, embody this "Sena vs Sena vs Sena" fight – the first in Kopri-Pachpakhadi in Thane, where Mr. Shinde is contesting against Kedar Dighe, the Shiv Sena (UBT) candidate and most important, Dighe's nephew.

"I am hurt that Anand Dighe's legacy is being hijacked. He would have never betrayed the Shiv Sena or Balasaheb Thackeray by splitting the party. Mr. Shinde has taken our symbol, corporators, MLAs and even the party's name in a power grab. Till 2022, he was all praise for Uddhav Thackeray and his handling of the administration of Maharashtra," Mr. Kedar said in the middle of his campaign.

He objects to the way *Dharamveer* portrays his uncle's life. "Only first part of *Dharamveer* is about Dighe, the second part is all about Eknath Shinde," he adds.

In Mahim, the constituency that houses Sena Bhavan, the Shiv Sena's party headquarters, MNS chief Raj Thackeray's son Amit Thackeray is making his political debut against Mahesh Sawant, candidate of his uncle Mr. Uddhav Thackeray, and Sada Sarvankar, Shiv Sena (Shinde) MLA.

The seat itself is redolent with Shiv Sena's appeal and history, with Shivaji Park at the centre, and memorials to the Constitution's architect Babasaheb Ambedkar, Hindutva icon Veer Savarkar and Bal Thackeray.

"Raj Thackeray and I are neighbours, we have a good relationship. Shinde *saab* asked Raj Thackeray to join the Mahayuti but Mr. Amit Thackeray announced his candidature after my name was announced," Mr. Sarvankar told *The Hindu*. "If you see old footage of protests against Mani Shankar Aiyar or Mulayam Singh in Mumbai, you can see I am there, of course with more hair," he adds with a smile.

Legacy fights are complicated. Who has inherited the virtues of a political ideology may or may not always be about blood and genes. In Maharashtra, a 'nature and nurture' tug of war is to be decided at the hustings on November 23.

'Hemant govt. is more inclined towards looting money and natural resources'

The AJSU president says his party could not be part of the NDA in 2019 because of ideological differences which resulted in splitting of votes, and adds that he is a trustworthy ally of the BJP; he says infiltrators are taking shelter in Jharkhand owing to the the failure of the West Bengal government

INTERVIEW

Sudesh Mahto

Amit Bhelari

Sudesh Mahto, president of the All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) and former Deputy Chief Minister of Jharkhand, speaks on the fight mounted by the party as an NDA constituent against the INDIA bloc in 10 Assembly constituencies in Jharkhand. Mr. Mahto has represented the Silli Assembly seat four times. He is contesting against Amit Mahto, who defeated him in 2014. He speaks on Chief Minister Hemant Soren, the NDA campaign and his previous defeat. Excerpts:

How do you rate the government of Hemant Soren?

I have never seen such an irresponsible government in Jharkhand. Government is the protector of the State, and even if not able to do much development work, it must play the role of a guardian. In this government, there is no feeling of guardianship; rather it's more inclined towards looting the money and natural resources of the State.

You had once said that some people became revolutionists by just burning tyres; Jairam Mahto of the Jharkhand Loktantrik Krantikari Morcha had said it was a personal attack on him. Do you find him a challenge for you?

I was just defining the agitation because Jharkhand has always remained a land of revolutionists. Be it fight against the British or for a separate State, our people fought like freedom fighters. What Jharkhand has seen, no State has seen. I don't think one can match that level as a revolutionist and I never had any issue with any person. As far as his candidature is concerned, I think anybody can join politics and can contest the election. If there is any challenge for me, it is from the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM). We both (JMM and AJSU) have emerged from the Jharkhand movement and played a decisive role in the formation of Jharkhand.

Hemant Soren is continuously asking the Centre to release the dues of Jharkhand, that is ₹1.36 lakh crore, so that he can use that money for welfare schemes.

AMIT BHELARI

Have you ever seen or heard Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren having any discussion with the Prime Minister on of development. In the federal system, any Chief Minister can demand the fund for the development of his own State, that's his right, but Hemant*ji* never took any such initiative.

There is a perception that like Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) in Bihar, AJSU in Jharkhand always revolves around power.

From the time of my political emergence and the 15 years of struggle in student life, you can easily make out what I stand for. I cannot justify this perception. When I started politics, it was the time of formation of a government in Bihar. That time Lalu Prasad*ji* was in a minority and the first offer he gave me was to join the Cabinet. I replied to Lalu*ji* that if he can give me anything then, he must fulfil our demand of Jharkhand as a separate State. Joba Manjhi became the Housing Minister, but I preferred to sit in the Opposition.

So, one should do a better assessment about me and my party.

AJSU was not part of the National Democratic Alliance in 2019.

There were some ideological differences with the BJP due to which we could not become part of the NDA. As a result, we know that votes got scattered in which Hemant Soren and the Congress came to power.

They did not get the majority of the vote. This time, we have made the alliance and more than party, State is our priority. Before I entered politics, in 1998 when I was young, I held a press conference at the Ranchi airport supporting Atal Bihari Vajpayee for the separate State of Jharkhand. I had told Atal*ji* that Sudesh Mahto would be the oldest and trustworthy ally of the BJP.

The NDA's entire campaign is restricted to two issues – Bangladeshi infiltration and corruption. Don't you have any other issue to raise?

We believe that the country's security is our top priority and if Bangladeshi infiltration is going on, then we must stop it by identifying them. For me, it is a law and order issue, Bangladesh is close to West Bengal and after West Bengal, our State Jharkhand comes. Due to the failure of the West Bengal government, infiltrators are taking shelter in Jharkhand. Both the State and the Centre, with a joint programme, should stop the infiltration.

You have faced defeat in your turf Silli in 2014 (Amit Mahto) and 2018 (Amit Mahto's wife Seema Devi). Once again Amit Mahto is in the fray as JMM candidate.

In elections, people sometimes lose and sometimes win. One cannot be undefeated. What is more important over here is not winning the election but why face defeat in the elections. If I become an MLA, I must know my responsibility very well. I became MLA for the first time at the age of 25. I represented my constituency four times and now it is a role model for other Assembly seats. I have made bridges, better roads, uninterrupted power supply, smart classes in government schools. If there is mid-day meal in high school and Plus 2, then it is in Silli. We have our own sports academy. From Silli, people have got selected for the Commonwealth Games. The term self-help group originated in Silli.

Neither here nor there, boundary villages with dual votes fight a singular battle for land rights

Abhinay Deshpande
PARANDOLI

In the quaint village of Parandoli, straddling the boundary of Maharashtra and Telangana, former sarpanch Laxman Kamble sums up the villagers' plight as "*na ghar ka na ghat ka*" – not belonging fully to one State or the other – as they are "owned and disowned" alternately by both States.

Seated on his porch beside a statue of B.R. Ambedkar, Mr. Kamble, who was first elected in 1995, points out the problem of frequent power outages.

Parandoli, one of the 14 villages straddling Jivti taluk in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra and Kerameri mandal in Kumuram Bheem Asifabad of Telangana, is home to nearly 5,000 people. They predominantly belong to Marathi-speaking Scheduled Caste communities.

These villagers hold a unique privilege: voting rights in both Maharashtra and Telangana. Between November last year and May, over 3,000 registered voters exercised their franchise in the Lok Sabha elections in both States and the Telangana Assembly polls. Now, they are preparing for another round in the Maharashtra Assembly election – making it four votes in less than a year.

On the margins: Former sarpanch Laxman Kamble and his wife Daivashila Kamble with their two voter ID cards in Parandoli. ABHINAY DESHPANDE

Long-standing issue

But for Mr. Kamble and other villagers, all that matters in this election, or any election, is whether one supported or opposed their demand for *pattas* (title deeds) for the lands they have been cultivating for decades without official ownership – each family cultivates three to five acres.

"Our long-standing stance is simple: support whoever gives us *pattas*," the former sarpanch says, explaining the recent shift in favour of merging with Maharashtra. This shift follows an extensive land survey by the Chandrapur district administration, which assured residents of *pattas* by next year.

Though villagers get benefits from two States, many people complain of frequent electricity outages

When this correspondent visited the villages a year ago, the people were keen on retaining dual voting rights, dismissing the "one nation, one election" debate. They feared that giving up dual voting could jeopardise the benefits they received from both States. However, as Maharashtra's land survey promises the closer realisation of their land rights, the villagers now lean towards aligning with Maharashtra.

Half the villages – Parandoli, Mukadamguda, Maharajguda, Lendijada, Kota, Shankerlodi, and Parandoli Tanda – are part of the Parandoli gram panchayat. The remaining villages of Bolapatar, Isapur, Anthapur, Indranagar, Lendiguda, Gowri, and the newly added Narayanguda are part of the Anthapur gram panchayat.

Court case

The boundary dispute dates back to 1956, when the States were reorganised on linguistic lines, while tensions escalated in 1989 when the Andhra Pradesh government (before Telangana's formation in 2014) set up polling stations in these contested villages. In 1999, the Andhra Pradesh High Court ruled that the villages were under its jurisdiction, a decision Maharashtra continues to contest in the Supreme Court.

In 2004, the Election Commission mandated single-constituency voting, which saw men casting ballots in Andhra Pradesh's Adilabad constituency while women voted in Chandrapur in Maharashtra.

Today, villagers benefit from schemes in both States, including Maharashtra's Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana and Telangana's Kalyana Lakshmi scheme. "We have two voter IDs, two ration cards, and even two Aadhaar cards, but what we really need is land," says Sahebrao Ingle, a local mason and farm labourer.

Electricity has been another point of contention; for years, villagers bypassed billing by tapping directly into power lines. Though Telangana's Gruhajyothi scheme now offers free electricity up to 200 units, many residents admit they have avoided paying bills. As they head to the polls again, their stance is clear: the State that grants them land rights will win their loyalty.

BJP seeks EC action against Rahul for rally speech

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Monday submitted a complaint to the Election Commission seeking action against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, accusing him of violating the Model Code of Conduct and electoral laws in a speech in Maharashtra.

A BJP delegation, which visited the EC headquarters, sought an order reprimanding, censuring, and restraining Mr. Gandhi from "handing out lies during election campaigning" and a direction for registration of a case against him and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

The complaint quoted Mr. Gandhi's speech on November 6, and alleged that he made unverified claims and "distorted the truth by stating that Apple's iPhones and Boeing's airplanes are being manufactured in other States at the expense of Maharashtra".

The BJP alleged that through his statements, Mr. Gandhi falsely accused other States of stealing purported opportunities from Maharashtra. "In fact, Maharashtra has topped in the direct investment cross India by receiving a total of ₹70,795 crore from April to June 2024-25," it said.

INBRIEF

India, Bangladesh officials to discuss new avenues of trade

Officials from Bangladesh arrived on Monday to participate in a meeting to develop infrastructure of land ports along the India-Bangladesh border. The sixth Subgroup meeting of the Land Port Authority of India (LPAI) with the Bangladesh Land Port Authority will feature discussions focused on bolstering the infrastructure of existing land ports and examining new avenues to facilitate trade and connectivity. The meeting builds upon prior agreements and reinforces the dedication to regional economic integration and cross-border cooperation, the LPAI said in a statement.

Plea for mandatory age check at alchohol sales points

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to examine a plea to direct mandatory biometric age-match checks at liquor vends, bars, pubs and other watering holes across the country. A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanathan decided to hear the Centre's response on the writ petition filed by the NGO 'Community Against Drunken Driving'. The petition highlighted the disparity in legal drinking age across various States in India. Senior advocate P.B. Suresh urged the court to establish an effective protocol and mechanism for the enforcement of mandatory age check of underage drinking at alcohol sales points via biometric age match.

For farmers, daily pursuit of scarce DAP in sowing season

Farmers' unions have been protesting over fertilizer shortage and tardy procurement of paddy in Haryana and Punjab; they are worried the scarcity will delay sowing of wheat, affecting the crop

Nikhil M. Babu
KAITHAL/SANGRUR

At the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendra (PMKSK) at Bunna village of Kaithal district in Haryana, farmers keep coming on bicycles and motorcycles to enquire if diammonium phosphate (DAP), a chief fertilizer used while sowing wheat, is available, but they return home empty-handed.

"We don't have a single sack of DAP left, but everyone wants DAP," said a worker at the centre.

Farmers told *The Hindu* that while they were struggling to procure DAP, private shops were selling it either at a premium or forcing them to buy fertilizers or pesticides that they did not need along with it. Farmers in Punnawal village of Punjab also echoed similar views.

Farmers' unions have been protesting over the shortage of DAP and tardy procurement of paddy in both the States. Farmers are also worried that both the factors will delay sowing of wheat, which will negatively impact the produce.

Fully empty: A farmer walks out of a fertilizer godown empty-handed in Haryana. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

At the office of Harbans Singh, Chief Agricultural Officer (CAO) in Sangrur of Punjab, at least two groups of farmers came to meet him for DAP in a 45-minute window on a November morning.

"Even a senior officer just called me to ask whether DAP is available. Everyone wants DAP," Mr. Singh said about the shortage, as he got another enquiry for DAP over his smartphone.

At the PMKSK in Bunna village, Raghuveer Singh, 50, said he has been trying to get DAP for the past two weeks. "I have to sow in the next four or five days. If I don't get it through government, then I will have to buy it from private shops," he said.

He said that if he is unable to get DAP, then he will have to buy NPK, an alternative, but DAP gives better results. "Every other year there is a shortage of DAP. The government should increase the production," he said.

Ramesh Kumar, 57, came on a bike to the outlet, only to return empty-handed. "I have got eight bags of DAP and I need 14 more. If I do not get it from the government, then I will have to buy it at ₹2,000 from private shops instead of ₹1,350 at the government," he said.

Harbans Singh said the Union government is selling nano DAP and nano urea to farmers along with the DAP. "The department (Punjab government) is telling farmers that if you do not need them, then do not buy them. The Punjab Agricultural University has not recommended it," he added.

Early morning queues

Meanwhile, Inderjit Singh, national vice-president of the left-affiliated All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), said the shortage is a big issue in both the States. "Farmers are standing in queues for hours from as early as 4 a.m. at some places and going back home empty-handed. At many places in Haryana, DAP is being sold through the police due to the high demand."

He also said that the shortage is a planned and deliberate move by the government to increase prices. "Ultimately, the government wants to open up the fertilizer industry completely to the private sector," he said.

TRAI chief to chair South Asian Telecom Regulators' Council

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Delegates from Afghanistan, Pakistan Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives and Nepal attend event

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has hosted South Asian nations for a multilateral event in New Delhi. Notably, the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC), the three-day event from Monday organised by the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT), has a delegation from the Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, a significant inclusion.

The Afghan officials present at the annual council declined to answer questions, but provided their names: Saed Baraat Shah Agha Nadeem, the chairman of the Afghanistan Telecom Regulatory Authority (ATRA), Sebghatullah Andar, the Telecommunication Monitoring and Control Director, and Rohullah Raihan, a protocol director. There was also a Pakistani delegation, led by Khawar Siddique Khokhar, member (Compliance & Enforcement) at the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA).

At the plenary session, TRAI Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti was voted the chair of SATRC for the coming year, a customary appointment as India hosted this year's session.

"It is important that Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) policies are increasingly related to development objectives," Mr. Lahoti said in remarks after being voted chair.

He brought up spam as an issue on which countries would have to collaborate to address. "This is not a political forum, this is a sectoral gathering," he told *The Hindu* when asked about the significance of the countries in attendance. "We are fortunate that all the eight member countries of the SATRC are present here." The other countries were Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives, and Nepal.

"We need to work harder and more patiently than ever to build our region," Mr. Nadeem of ATRA said at his remarks in the plenary session, in which he also highlighted the importance of regional and sub-regional cooperation in telecommunications, and thanked India for its hospitality.

High prevalence of sexual violence against gay, bisexual men across six cities: study

Ashna Butani
NEW DELHI

A research conducted by four academics sheds light on the prevalence of violence against gay and bisexual men across six cities.

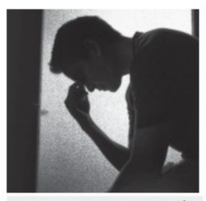
About 44% of the men sampled in Delhi said they faced sexual violence, making it the city with the highest prevalence of sexual violence against men who have sex with men.

The survey, showing that 78.7% gay men and 44% bisexual men have faced some sort of violence, be it verbal, physical, or sexual violence, comes amid growing concerns about safety among the community, with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita replacing the Indian Penal Code.

Unlike the IPC, the BNS does not have a Section dealing with rape of men or transgender persons.

Rise in threats

A research published by BMC Public Health, which sampled 300 self-identified gay and bisexual men across various States found violence against men a pervasive issue, particluarly affecting those with lower income and education



- 78.7% gay men and 44% bisexual men have faced some sort of violence
- 44% of the men sampled in Delhi said that they have faced sexual violence
- Under the general category, 48.8% had reported facing violence, while it was 84.1% in OBC and 71.6% in SC/ST
- Those in high-income groups were 83% less likely to face any violence in comparison to those from low-income groups

The research published by BMC Public Health, conducted by Suraj Pal, Praveen Kumar Pathak, Margubur Rahaman and Niharika Tripathi, sampled 300 self-identified gay and bisexual men in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, and Lucknow. The research concluded that violence against gay and bisexual men is a pervasive issue, particularly affecting individuals with lower education and low income.

The results reveal that those aged 18-24 reported the most violence, and respondents who were open about their sexuality in public were five times more likely to face any violence than those who were not. Muslim respondents were 2.6 times more likely to face sexual violence compared with Hindu respondents.

It shows that among those who fell under the general category, 48.8% had reported facing violence, while this was much higher among those in the OBC category (84.1%) and SC/ST category (71.6%). The most violent city for gay and bisexual men was Kolkata, where 80% reported facing violence of any kind, followed by Delhi (72%) and Mumbai (58%).

No legal provision

Anas Tanwir, a Supreme Court lawyer, said, "With the IPC gone, there is no law protecting men, be it gay, bisexual or heterosexual men, from rape." He added that under other Sections, men can still complain about grievous hurt, but dealing with rape is not the purpose of those provisions. Praveen K. Pathak, JNU professor who co-authored the research, said, "We are working in the right direction and hope that such a provision will be implemented."

Women naval officers circumnavigating globe reach Australia in their first stop

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

After a 39-day voyage at sea, two women officers undertaking a global circumnavigation expedition in Indian Naval Sailing Vessel *Tarini*, arrived at its first port of call in Australia on Saturday after covering a distance of 4,900 nautical miles from Goa. The historic expedition was flagged off from Goa by Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi on October 2.

Around 2.30 p.m. IST on November 9, after a challenging 39-day voyage at sea under Navika Sagar Parikrama-II, *INSV Tarini* arrived at its first port of call in Fremantle, Australia, the Navy said in a statement.

"The vessel has covered a distance of 4,900 NM from Goa, crossing the Equator on October 16 and the Tropic of Capricorn on October 27. During this 38-day non-stop voyage, the Indian Navy duo of Lt. Cdr. Dilna K. and Lt. Cdr. Roopa A. encountered a range of weather conditions from calm to severe, facing winds up to 40 knots and sea state of six," the Navy said.

Two women Navy officers, Dilna K. and Roopa A., aboard *INSV Tarini* arrive at the first port of call in Freemantle, Australia. ANI

Throughout the journey, the crew remained in good health and high spirits, demonstrating resilience in the face of extreme conditions, it stated. The progress of the expedition has been closely followed by Admiral Tripathi receiving daily updates.

As *INSV Tarini* arrived in Fremantle, it was given a warm welcome by dignitaries, including the Consul-General of India at Perth, the Defence Adviser from Canberra, the Secretary of the Indian Navy Sailing Association (INSA), representatives from the Royal Australian Navy, along with members of the media and Indian naval veterans residing in Australia. The celebration was further enriched by the sound of classical music, which the Tamil Association of Western Australia performed using *parai* (drum) and *kombu thaarai* (drum), offering a rich cultural touch to the reception, the Navy said.

Commander Abhilash Tomy (retired), an accomplished sailor who has been mentoring the crew since August 2023, said they had sailed well till now.

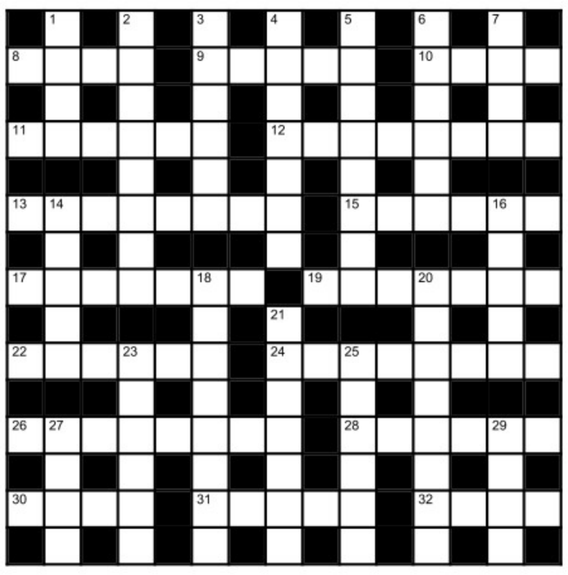
"We estimated 35 days for the trip and the crew has managed in 38, which is quite fair," he said on the first leg of the voyage. "There was a wide variety of conditions from calm to rough. The boat looks to be in good condition, which means that the crew has looked after it well, sailing conservatively but averaging good speeds," he told *The Hindu*.

TH CROSSWORD + 14328

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Hint about right remedy (4)
9 Ex Israeli prime minister's start (5)
10 Trees in Wilhelmstrasse (4)
11 Extraordinary avarice, in absence of energy, for fish roe (6)
12 Digs and digs long agitatedly (8)
13 A bread roll containing bits of nice dates and tea, I hear, is plenty (8)
15 Shout, "Underneath, lecturer is buried" (6)
17 American drone flying around at beginning of day is decorated (7)
19 Returning, let a word of cheer echo in Middle Eastern capital (3,4)
22 Flashing light and mixing sorbet (6)
24 Looking forward to girl after one in revolutionary Taiwan (8)
26 Cheat court decision maker and magician (8)
28 Endless gold and some ferric substance for sportsperson (6)
30 Doddery disciple drops pile for flat circular object (4)
31 Fractured spine aches (5)
32 Friends return strike (4)

Down

1 Country copper beats accused at first (4)
2 In shell of bulldozer, install souped-up engine and starter (8)
3 Student leaves African country for European peninsula (6)
4 Nimbleness of soldier seen in devastated Italy (7)
5 Folding lie-in bed cannot be eaten (8)
6 Call once more on telephone if lost in airfield modification (6)
7 Mugs can be complacent (4)
14 President gives up new model toilet fitting (5)
16 Perhaps, bulb is on and has electrically charged particle (5)
18 Before operations, ophthalmologist gives liquid medicaments (3-5)
20 Where one may learn to draw girl going after moving cart (3,5)
21 Virginia gets donation for tramp (7)
23 Article's aim (6)
25 *Come September* can be played at the end of this month (6)
27 God found during good introspection (4)
29 Test old flame before noon (4)

SUDOKU

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	1		3					
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

No.SS6337 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	7	8	5	1	9	4	2	6
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5	8	6	2	3	7	9	1	4
9	1	2	8	6	4	3	7	5
1	4	5	7	2	8	6	9	3
8	2	3	6	9	5	7	4	1
7	6	9	1	4	3	2	5	8

FAITH

Vidhi is powerful

Through the many characters in the Mahabharata we get an idea of the power of destiny, said P.T. Seshadri in a discourse. The Kurukshetra war is about to begin. The two opposing armies have arrived on the battlefield. Lord Krishna's brother Balarama takes a look at the thousands of soldiers waiting to fight, not knowing whether they will survive the war. Balarama is saddened by what he sees, and remarks, "For the mistakes of a few, so many are going to pay with their lives. What is this if it is not the work of destiny (*vidhi*)?" he wonders.

Karna says he can single-handedly kill the Pandavas. But his strength will not be the deciding factor, for even his strength is under the control of destiny. Karna acknowledges that it is *vidhi* which will decide the outcome of war. Later, in the Bhishma Parva, Karna falls to Arjuna's arrow. Bhishma sees him lying fatally wounded, and says that none can change *vidhi*. In the Mausala Parva, the Krishna avatara has ended, and Arjuna comes to Vyasa. He says to the sage that with Krishna's departure from the world, he (Arjuna) has lost everything. Vyasa says, "When it is time for a man to get wealth, his intellect works in a way that will get him riches. He acquires *tejas*. He is able to anticipate what his future will be like. When it is Bhagavan's plan that we should get something, circumstances become favourable to us. But the same man may become poor. When it is time for him to lose his wealth, his intellect no longer works the way it did. He loses his *tejas* and his *jnana* about the future. So wealth comes to us only through God's *anugraha*. A man, who is very strong, can become weak. This too is entirely due to God's will."

INBRIEF

Hindalco's Q2 net profit surges 78% to ₹3,909 crore

Hindalco Industries Ltd. on Monday reported its consolidated net profit grew 78% to ₹3,909 crore in the second quarter of this year, driven by a strong operational performance by the India business, favourable macros and prudent cost management. Revenue from operations rose 7% to ₹58,203 crore. "Aluminium upstream EBITDA per tonne was at $1,349, up 80%, with industry-best margins of 41%," the firm said.

Bank of India Q2 net profit soars 63% to ₹2,374 crore

Public sector lender Bank of India reported its net profit grew 62.76% to ₹2,374 crore for the second quarter, supported by a 41% uptick in interest income, including treasury income, MD & CEO Rajneesh Karnatak said during a video conference. Net interest income (NII) rose by 4% to ₹5,986 crore. Slippages increased as an unidentified public sector telecom company defaulted payments to the tune of ₹1,000 crore.

Stanchart opens international banking centre in Chennai

Standard Chartered unveiled its second international banking centre for global Indians in Chennai on Monday and plans to open more centres in key hubs within the next 12-18 months. "The international banking centre aims at catering to the unique needs of affluent and high net worth individuals by offering tailored cross border investment and wealth lending solutions," said its MD and head of wealth and retail banking India and South Asia Aditya Mandloi.

Amul to enter Europe by end of this month: MD Mehta

Amul will enter Europe by the end of this month after launching products in the U.S., GCMMF MD Jayen S. Mehta said. The company will be launching its products in Spain first before expanding to other countries in Europe. PTI

Amid FPI exodus, the retail equity cult rises

In October, domestic investors poured in a record ₹41,886.7 crore in equity mutual funds, even as foreign investors pulled out ₹94,000 crore

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

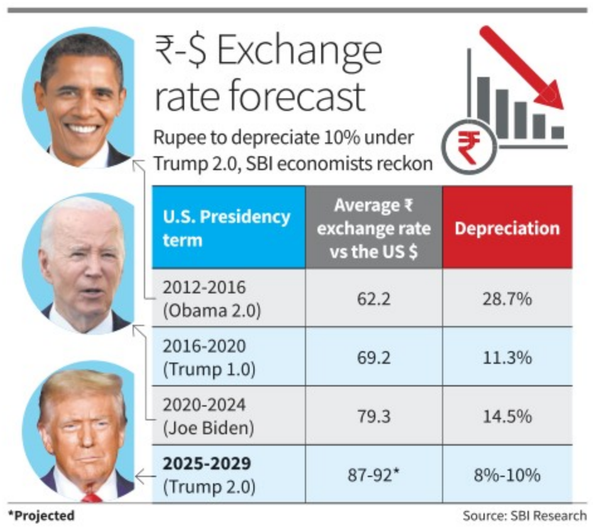
Silver lining: Mutual funds' assets increased to ₹68.2 lakh crore last month from ₹67.7 lakh crore in September. AP

October may have seen the highest exodus of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from the Indian stock markets but domestic retail investors remained upbeat about equity investments, ramping up their savings parked in mutual funds focused on investing in shares to a record high of almost ₹42,000 crore.

Data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) on Monday showed inflows into equity mutual funds were 21.7% over September's fresh investment receipts of ₹34,419 crore. This was in sharp contrast to FPIs who appeared to have turned bearish on India, selling shares worth ₹94,000 crore in October, and whose net investments into the country this year turned negative during the first week of November.

The assets under management of mutual funds rose to ₹68.2 lakh crore last month from ₹67.7 lakh crore in September, with inflows into Systematic Investment Plans or SIPs hitting a record ₹25,323 crore.

"The continued SIP surge signals the growing preference for disciplined investing in Indian investors" said AMFI chief executive Venkat Chalasani.



EAM bats for trade in national currencies ahead of Russia meet

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

S. Jaishankar

Ahead of the 25th session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission meeting, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar 2024) said bilateral trade in national currencies is of "great importance".

Speaking at the India-Russia Business Forum in Mumbai, he said bilateral trade between the two countries is presently at $66 billion and declared that the figure will touch $100 billion by 2030.

The senior Indian Minister reminded of the current global conditions in which the mutual trade between India and Russia had surged ahead and reiterated the world was moving towards multipolarity.

"Special Rupee Vostro Accounts are right now an effective mechanism. However even in the short run, better trade balance with national currency settlements is the answer," the Minister said.

He highlighted INSTC, Chennai-Vladivostok Corridor and Northern Maritime Route as the three connectivity initiatives the two sides were working on.

He also pointed out bilateral deal between the customs authorities of India and Russia on Authorised Economic Operators has had a 'big impact on smoothening the ease of doing business'.

SC nixes SEBI plea on SAT stance in its case against RIL, Ambani

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed the stock market regulator's plea against a Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) order setting set aside a penalty it had imposed on Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL), its chairman Mukesh Ambani, and two other entities, in a case related to alleged manipulative trading in the shares of the erstwhile Reliance Petroleum Ltd. in 2007.

A bench of Justices J. B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan said it was not inclined to interfere with SAT's order. "No question of law involved in this appeal warranting our interference. Dismissed. You can't chase a person like this for years," the bench said.

The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) had moved the top court against a SAT order dated-December 4, 2023. In January 2021, SEBI had imposed a ₹25 crore fine on RIL, ₹15 crore on Mr. Ambani, RIL's chairman and managing director, ₹20 crore on Navi Mumbai SEZ Pvt. Ltd. and ₹10 crore on Mumbai SEZ Ltd.

The case pertains to the sale and purchase of Reliance Petroleum shares in the cash and futures segments in November 2007.

Vedanta likely to invest $500 million in AvanStrate

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Vedanta Ltd. said on Monday that it plans to invest almost $500 million in group firm AvanStrate Inc. (ASI), a display glass manufacturer. Vedanta has a 98% stake in the company.

"This investment is aimed at driving innovation and expansion within ASI, strengthening its focus on research and development, manufacturing capabilities and product offerings to cater to global demand for advanced display glass solutions," Vedanta said, adding ASI is planning to expedite the development of next-generation glass products.

HFCL group bags ₹13,000-cr. BharatNet orders

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

HFCL and a consortium of firms it led, were on Monday declared the lowest bidder for optical fibre-based broadband network projects worth ₹13,000 crore under BharatNet Phase III for U.P. East, U.P. West and Punjab circles. HFCL had bid for U.P. East and U.P. West via a consortium and alone for Punjab.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	79,496	0.01
US Dollar	84.38	-----
Gold	79,550	-----
Brent oil	71.75	-----

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2903.65	-25.45
Adani Ports	1347.90	-14.20
Apollo Hosp	7155.45	-265.95
Asian Paints	2543.10	-226.35
Axis Bank	1171.00	10.05
Bajaj Auto	9919.35	8.95
Bajaj Finserv	1717.45	-22.30
Bajaj Finance	6778.80	-117.15
Bharat Elec	299.75	2.00
Bharti Airtel	1560.55	-9.35
BPCL	312.55	2.10
Britannia Ind	5434.65	-312.50
Cipla	1552.80	-39.80
Coal India	421.55	-2.50
Dr Reddys Lab	1287.90	4.25
Eicher Motors	4793.45	8.20
Grasim Ind	2519.50	-25.35
HCL Tech	1867.30	29.80
HDFC Bank	1766.30	11.85
HDFC Life	705.35	-3.15
Hero MotoCorp	4757.50	-11.40
Hindalco	655.35	4.90
Hind Unilever	2491.05	-16.65
ICICI Bank	1269.30	10.45
IndusInd Bank	1060.80	7.00
Infosys	1860.10	30.15
ITC	476.95	-1.10
JSW Steel	979.00	-17.40
Kotak Bank	1744.00	-1.80
L&T	3628.85	-31.45
M&M	2930.60	-44.30
Maruti Suzuki	11399.70	96.70
NestleIndia	2279.05	-16.60
NTPC	392.55	-5.10
ONGC	256.90	-5.65
PowerGrid Corp	329.80	13.55
Reliance Ind	1272.70	-11.05
SBI Life	1566.00	-3.95
State Bank	847.65	4.50
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2999.45	-8.50
Sun Pharma	1794.60	-15.00
TataConsumerProduct	975.95	-17.00
Tata Motors	804.70	-0.75
Tata Steel	145.01	-2.56
TCS	4198.70	51.70
Tech Mahindra	1704.15	22.80
Titan	3206.60	20.35
Trent Ltd.	6480.70	181.75
UltraTech Cement	10970.45	-72.90
Wipro	573.50	4.50

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 11

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.19	84.51
Euro	89.78	90.13
British Pound	108.50	108.92
Japanese Yen (100)	54.74	54.95
Chinese Yuan	11.70	11.74
Swiss Franc	95.72	96.09
Singapore Dollar	63.21	63.46
Canadian Dollar	60.44	60.67
Malaysian Ringitt	19.08	19.18

Source:Indian Bank

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL) invites e-Tenders under two cover bid system (Bid I: Prequalification & Techno Commercial bid and Bid II: Price Bid) from eligible contractors.Name of Work: Construction of Dedicated Rural Industrial Park in Thiruvananthapuram District
Tender no: KSITIL/KSPACE/2024-25/05
Estimate Amount : Rs. 1,94,32,88,740.00 excluding GST
Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.5,00,000/-
Period of Completion : 30 months
Due Date of Submission: 10/12/2024, 15:00 Hrs.
Tender documents and tender schedule may be downloaded from the e-GP website: **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
Date: 12-11-2024 **Managing Director**
Thiruvananthapuram **Kerala State IT Infrastructure Ltd**
D3/686/2024/I&PRD

KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION e-TENDER

ABRIDGED NIT

The **Director General (TP&DD), The Kolkata Municipal Corporation** invites e-tender/quotation online expression of interest of lower bidder for following work :
NIT No. : KMC/D.G.(TPDD)/C/110/2024-25
Name of work : **Capacity Enhancement of Macro Drains in Town System & Suburban System (Ballygunge Park Road and Mullen Street);** Estimated Value : **Tender amount to be quoted by the bidder;** Earnest Money : ₹ **10,00,000.00**; Period of completion : **30 Months**; Last date and time of submission of bid : **17.12.2024 at 4 pm**; Bid submission start date (Online) on : **26.11.2024 (3 pm)**; Date of Pre-bid meeting on : **20.11.2024 (3 pm)**; The bid forms and other details are available on and from **14.11.2024 (3 pm)** from the website **https://etender.wb.nic.in** 821/24-25

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED

Notice Inviting Bid

1. BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LILO OF ONE CIRCUIT OF 132 KV D/C BHARATPUR-NADBAI LINE AT PROPOSED 132 KV GSS UCCHAIN INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENTS/ MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION NO. RVPN/EHV/BN-9019002423 & UBN: VPN2425WLOB01931 ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 26.12.2024.
2. BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 220/132 KV, 1X160 MVA AND 132/33KV, 1X50 MVA SUBSTATION AT BAMBORI (DISTT.- PRATAPGARH) ALONG WITH 33 KV, 5.43 MVAR CAPACITOR BANK INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENT'S/MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION NO. RVPN/EHV/BN-9019002430 & UBN: VPN2425WLOB01932 ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 26.12.2024.
3. BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS 220KV AND 132KV TRANSMISSION LINES ASSOCIATED WITH 220 KV GSS BAMBORI (DISTT.- PRATAPGARH) INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENTS / MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION NO. RVPN/EHV/BN-9019002431 & UBN: VPN2425WLOB01933 ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 26.12.2024.
4. BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 220KV AND 132KV TRANSMISSION LINES ASSOCIATED WITH 220KV GSS DEOGARH (DISTT-RAJSAMAND) INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENTS/ MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION NO. RVPN/EHV/BN-9019002429 & UBN: VPN2425WLOB01934 ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 26.12.2024.
5. BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 220/132 KV, 1X160 MVA & 132/33 KV, 1X31.5 MVA GSS AT 220 KV GSS DEOGARH (DISTT-RAJSAMAND) IN RAJASTHAN AND 33KV CAPACITOR BANK ALONGWITH ASSOCIATED BAYS INCLUDING SURVEY, SUPPLY OF ALL EQUIPMENT'S/MATERIALS, ERECTION (INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS), TESTING AND COMMISSIONING (TURNKEY PROJECT) AGAINST SPECIFICATION NO. RVPN/EHV/BN-9019002432 & UBN: VPN2425WLOB01935 ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED BIDDERS UP TO 04:00 PM ON 26.12.2024.

Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7565 **RRVPN/TR-6456/2024** **Superintending Engineer (Contract - II), Jaipur**

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Commissioner of Printing, Stationery and Stores Purchase Department, Chanchalguda, Hyderabad, T.S.
Tender No.35/K2/SP/GCP/D&C/2024- I.D.No.555717
Printing Raw Materials-73 Items
Bid Closing Date: 22.11.2024 @ 3.00 P.M on e-procurement Portal
Sd/- Commissioner (FAC)
DIPR R.O.No.6488-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 11.11.2024

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in Mobile No. 96461-55525

E-Tender Enq. No. 576/P-3/EMPW-12847 Dated: 08.11.24

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_129576_1 BREAKDOWN/ PREVENTIVE MTC. OF TG EQUIPMENTS & OVERHAULING OF ASSOCIATED AUXILLARIES OF 4X210 MW 'KWU' DESIGN BHEL MAKE TG UNITS AT GGSSTP, RUPNAGAR"
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to *https://eproc.punjab.gov.in* from dated 08.11.24/01:00 PM onwards.
Note: *Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in*
RTP - 120/24 **76155/12/3618/2023/38906**

e-dit
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender invited for "Rate contract for the Printing and delivery of High Security Document"
Tender id: 2024_CDIT_ 704754_1
For details and online submission of bid please visit
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Last date of submission of bids:
21.11.2024, 03.00 PM.
11.11.2024 Registrar, C-DIT

ICMR-NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
Jamai Osmania Post, Tarnaka, Hyderabad - 500 007, Telangana State, India.
CERTIFICATE COURSE IN NUTRITION
A 10-week annual Post-Graduate Certificate Course in Nutrition (PGCCN) will be held in ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad from **6th January to 18th March 2025.** Application form may be downloaded from **www.nin.res.in.** Filled-in form should reach NIN as hard copy only before **22nd November 2024. Further details: Tel. No.040-27197247, email: petninhyd@yahoo.com.**
Sd/- SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
CORRIGENDUM - II
In continuation to this office RFx. 2nd Call (e-Tender) Notice dated 30.09.2024 & Corrigendum – I dtd. 29.10.2024, the sale and submission date for the RFx. No. 7000033696 is extended as below :
Date of download & online submission of e-tender document is extended upto 20.11.2024 upto 15.30 Hrs.
All other Terms and Condition will remain unchanged. For detailed information visit our website: https://srmetender.mahatransco.in.
-Sd-
CHIEF ENGINEER, EHV PC (O&M) Zone, **Vashi**

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT
Survey House, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005.
e-TENDER NOTICE

Online tenders are invited by the Director of Survey and Settlement of Government of Tamil Nadu for the supply, installation and maintenance of Rovers of Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) equipment as per the specifications mentioned in the tender document. The tender document can be downloaded at free of cost from **http://tntenders.gov.in /** from **12.11.2024.** The details of the tender are as follows.

Tender Ref. No.	**S2/743/24**
EMD Value	**Rs.6,00,000/-**
Tender Publishing date	**12.11.2024**
Pre-bid meeting	**On 22.11.2024 at 11.30 AM At Directorate of Survey and Settlement, Survey House, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005.**
Last date and time for online submission of bid	**12.12.2024, 03.00 PM**
Technical bid opening	**13.12.2024, 03.00 PM**

DIPR/ 4839 /TENDER/2024 **Additional Director (Resurvey)**

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
Expression of Interest
Ref: SCTL/PRJ/4327/2024/AM-C
Date: 11.11.2024
Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited intends to maintain and operate the facilities at MLCP's of smart city by utilizing the open spaces for advertisements and other purposes by creating revenue sharing conditions. Bids invited from various agencies/PSU's/Banks/other agencies having relevant experience for **"Expression of Interest" for the project of "Proposals for Operation and Maintenance of the MLCP's."** The EOI shall be addressed and submitted to the Smart City Thiruvananthapuram, on or before 18th November 2024 by 15:00 hrs in sealed cover
Scope of Project
- The objective of this initiative is to ensure the efficient operation and upkeep of these MLCPs while leveraging open spaces for advertisements, branding, and other commercial purposes, thereby creating sustainable revenue streams.
- **Facility Maintenance & Operations:**
- **Utilization of Open Spaces**
- **Revenue Sharing:**

Detailed bid published in the website below
For More Details contact: 0471 401 0374
Website: **www.smartcitytvm.in**
(sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corp.
EMI Campus, J-8-A, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur-302004 (Rajasthan)
RFP No. RSLDC/ PMCA/RFP/2024-25/11310599 **Dated : 22/10/2024**
Extension of RFP dates for Selection of Project Management Consulting Agency for providing Project Management consulting support services to RSLDC.
Due to some unavoidable circumstances, the dates of above referred RFP are hereby changed as per the following –

Activity	Old Date & Time	New Date & Time
Publishing of Pre-Bid Queries Response	Latest by 08.11.2024	Latest by 14.11.2024
Bid Submission Start Date	09.11.2024 at 09:00 AM	15.11.2024 at 09:00 AM
Last Date/Time for Submitting / uploading of offer/Bid	18.11.2024 up to 6:00 PM	25.11.2024 up to 6:00 PM
Last Date / time for submitting original hard copy of Bid Security Demand Draft	19.11.2024 up to 11:30 PM	26.11.2024 up to 11:30 AM
Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid	19.11.2024 at 3:00 PM	26.11.2024 at 3:00 PM

The interested bidders may submit the proposal as per the above amendments and all other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7562

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
TIRUVANNAMALAI HIGHWAYS, (CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
T.N. No.25 / 2024-25/HDO / Dated. 07.11.2024

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender under Two cover system pertaining to Cheyyar (H) C&M Division through online only** will be received upto **18.12.2024 / 12.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tiruvannamalai Circle for **CRIDP 2024-25 (CMRDP) (1 Work).**

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **16.11.2024** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** If any Changes/ Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Circle, Tiruvannamalai.
DIPR/4834/Tender/2024

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471- 2945600, Fax No. 0471- 2945647)
E-mail : projects@kmscl.kerala.gov.in, website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in
CIN . U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/Projects/1094/2016 **Date : 07.11.2024**
E - TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited for the CAMC of Ac units at various Karunya Pharmacies

Sl. No.	Tender reference	Description	Last Date for Tender submission	Date of Technical Bid opening
1.	KMSCL/PROJECTS/ ET/03/2024	CAMC of 124 nos Split AC units at various Karunya Pharmacies	22.11.2024	23.11.2024

Tender documents and all other information related to tender and bidding process can be downloaded from the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.**
(Sd/-) **Managing Director** (Tender Inviting Authority)

TAIPEI

'Taiwan individuals and firms not involved in Lebanon device blasts'

GETTY IMAGES

Taiwan investigators said on Monday there was no evidence that Taiwanese individuals or firms were involved in a deadly September attack targeting Hezbollah communications devices. U.S. media had previously reported that Israel had inserted explosive materials into a shipment of pagers from Taiwan's Gold Apollo. AFP

KYIV

Six killed in Russian strikes in Ukraine a day after drone barrage

AFP

Air alerts wailed across Ukraine as Russian strikes killed at least six persons in Mykolaiv and Zaporizhzhia, a day after the biggest drone barrage. Meanwhile, Russia denied a reported call between Vladimir Putin and U.S. President-elect Donald Trump on the Ukraine conflict and said it saw no signs the West was ready for talks. AFP

AMSTERDAM

ICC to probe alleged misconduct by war crimes prosecutor Khan

AFP

The International Criminal Court's governing body will launch an external probe into its chief prosecutor Karim Khan over alleged sexual misconduct, it said in a statement on Monday. Khan said he would stay on in his key function of overseeing investigations into alleged war crimes, including in the Israel-Gaza conflict. REUTERS

TOKYO

Lawmakers vote to keep embattled Ishiba as Japan PM

AFP

Japan Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba kept his job in a parliamentary vote on Monday, despite having recently led the ruling coalition to its worst general election result in 15 years. Lawmakers appointed Mr. Ishiba head of a minority government — meaning he may face political gridlock, or need to compromise to pass new Bills. AFP

Israeli fire kills thirty Palestinians as tanks roll into Gaza camp

Reuters
CAIRO

One of the residents said the advance of the tanks into the Nuseirat camp was a complete surprise

Israeli forces sent tanks into the western side of Gaza's Nuseirat camp on Monday in a new incursion into the enclave's central area, and Palestinian medics said Israeli strikes had killed at least 30 persons since Sunday night.

Historic site

Residents said Israeli tanks opened fire as they rolled into that sector of the camp, one of the Gaza Strip's eight historic refugee sites, causing panic among the population and displaced families. One resident, Zaik Mohammad, said the tanks' advance was a complete surprise.

Israel is focusing its operations in the north and centre.

In attacks overnight and into Monday, medics said 20 people were killed in Nuseirat in two separate Israeli airstrikes, one that hit a tent encampment.

In the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahiya, where Israeli forces have operated since October 5, medics said four persons were killed in an Israeli airstrike. Others were killed in Israeli airstrikes in Gaza City.

Palestinian state not realistic, says Israel's Foreign Minister

A Palestinian state would be a Hamas state, says Gideon Saar; his comments came at a time when Arab and Muslim leaders gathered in Saudi Arabia to discuss the wars in Gaza and Lebanon

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar on Monday rejected the establishment of a Palestinian state as a "realistic" goal, amid the ongoing war in the Gaza Strip.

"I don't think this position is realistic today and we must be realistic," the newly appointed Minister said in response to a question over the creation of a Palestinian state in exchange for a normalisation of ties between Israel and Arab countries.

A Palestinian state would be "a Hamas state", Mr. Saar added, referring to the Palestinian militant group in Gaza with which Israel has been at war for more than a year.

No solution: A Palestinian policeman walks outside a police station adorned with a painting depicting Yasser Arafat in West Bank. AFP

While he spoke in Jerusalem, Arab and Muslim leaders gathered in Saudi Arabia for a summit addressing the wars in Gaza and Lebanon, where Israel is also fighting Hamas ally Hezbollah.

Saudi plan

The Saudi Foreign Ministry announced plans for the summit in late October during a meeting, also in Riyadh, of a new "international alliance" to press for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Israel's was on Gaza has killed more than 43,603 people, most of them civilians.

Lebanon-based Hezbollah, which like Hamas is backed by Iran, began firing on Israel after the October 7 attack.

'Saudi, Kuwait may fill locals in skilled jobs handled by migrants'

A study found that wages for migrant workers in the GCC are significantly lower than those of native workers. GETTY IMAGES

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

Indicating further loss of jobs for Indian workers in West Asian countries, an international study on the migrant workers in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia found that high-skilled jobs may also soon get affected as the local workforce undergoes "further upskilling". The study further said that the reliance on expatriate labour, particularly for low-skilled jobs, will persist unless substantial automation initiatives are implemented in the the two Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries.

Authored by Abdul. A. Erumban, faculty of Groningen Growth and Development Centre at the University of Groningen in The Netherlands and and Abbas Al-Mejren, College of Business Administration, Kuwait University, Kuwait, the study was published in the international journal "Structural Change and Economic Dynamics" recently.

Talking to *The Hindu*, Dr. Erumban said for countries such as India, the potential substitution of migrant workers with nationals in middle and high-skilled jobs presents a medium to long-term risk. "Replacing high-skill jobs may require local investment in human capital, to improve their productivity, which may take time, but it is unrealistic to expect these opportunities to last indefinitely. Unlike Western countries facing labour shortages, the GCC still has a growing working-age population," he said.

The study found that wages for migrant workers in the GCC are significantly lower than those of native workers, but this wage gap is primarily driven by policy distortions rather than market forces. "Our analysis reveals that there is a substantial productivity difference between migrants and nationals in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, with migrants generally exhibiting higher productivity than the natives. This productivity advantage of migrants, when combined with their lower wage rate, contributes to a considerable unit labour cost difference between the migrants and the natives, making it challenging for firms, particularly in the private sector, to replace migrant workers with nationals," the study noted.

Trump names Tom Homan 'border czar', Elise Stefanik is Ambassador to UN

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump said late on Sunday he was bringing back hardline immigration official Tom Homan to oversee the country's borders in the incoming administration.

The 78-year-old Republican tycoon has pledged to launch – on day one of his presidency – the largest deportation operation of undocumented immigrants in U.S. history.

"I am pleased to announce that the Former ICE Director, and stalwart on Border Control, Tom Homan, will be joining the Trump Administration, in charge of our Nation's Borders ("The Border Czar")," Trump posted on his social network Truth Social. "I've known Tom for a long time, and there is nobody better at policing and controlling our Borders." Mr. Trump said Homan will be in charge of "all Deportation of Illegal Aliens back to their Country of Origin".

Tom Homan and Elise Stefanik. AFP

'Pack your bags'

Homan, who led immigration enforcement during part of Mr. Trump's first administration, appeared at the Republican National Convention in July, telling supporters: "I got a message to the millions of illegal immigrants that Joe Biden's released in our country: You better start packing now."

Fifth term

Late on Sunday, Mr. Trump told the *New York Post* he has offered Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik the job of U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

Ms. Stefanik, in her fifth term in office, told the newspaper she had accepted the role and was "truly honored".

China to unveil stealth jet and attack drones at Zhuhai airshow

Agence France-Presse
SHANGHAI

China will unveil a new stealth fighter jet and attack drones at a major airshow this week, with analysts and rival powers watching closely for rare clues on Beijing's military hardware development.

The country's close ties with Moscow will also be on display at Airshow China, which showcases Beijing's civil and military aerospace sector every two years in the southern city of Zhuhai.

This year it coincides with the 75th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF), and advancements in its fighting strength have taken centre stage.

Similar to F-35

The new J-35A, described as a "medium-sized stealth multi-purpose fighter", looks similar in design to a U.S. F-35, analysts say, though details are few.

Another key piece of hardware making its debut is the HQ-19 surface-to-air missile system, designed to intercept ballistic missiles and hypersonic glide vehicles, according to state media.

Sport

Haryana slots eight past Mizoram, books a berth against Maharashtra in the quarterfinals

HOCKEY

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Two-time champion and last year's finalist Haryana stamped its authority with a 8-0 victory over Mizoram in a Pool B contest of the Hockey India-14th Senior National men's championship at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Monday, thereby cementing its place in the last eight. Mizoram did put up a fight in the first two quarters, keeping Haryana largely at bay.

On target: Rohit played a key role as Haryana hammered Mizoram. R. RAGU

Upping the ante

From the third quarter, Haryana upped the ante. Current India junior World Cupper Rohit, 20 years old, turned out to be the star for Haryana scoring four goals. Tuesday is a rest day and the quarterfinals will be held on Wednesday.

The quarterfinal line-up:

Punjab vs Manipur; Haryana vs Maharashtra.

Tamil Nadu vs Uttar Pradesh;' Karnataka vs Odisha.

The results:

Pool A: Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu 3 (Aman Sharma 2, Mohd. Sadiq 26, Arvind Yadav 59) bt Chhattisgarh 1 (Roshanjeet Minz 15).

B: Haryana 8 (Pardeep Singh Mor 4, Rohit 31, 34, 47, 58, Joginder Singh 41, Amit Chahal 52, Rajinder Singh 57) bt Mizoram 0; Telangana 5 (Venkatesh Telugu 2, 38, Sandeep Subedar 3, 18, Ravi Teja Cheepati 52) bt Himachal 4 (Ayush 11, Harsh 37, Abhishek 52, Kumar Vishal 55).

G: Goa 6 (Suyesh Mayekar 2, Vasu Dev 7, Ayyaz Khan 17, Abhishek Pathak 29, Issub Sayyed 39, 60) bt Gujarat 0.

H: Manipur 10 (Ganendrajith Ningombam 3, Thounaojam Ingalemba Luwang 10, Chinglensana Singh Kangujam 13, Laishram Dipu Singh 14, 27, 26, Bhakar Ningomban 45, Ningombam Jenjen Singh 46, Moriangthem Dhananjay Meetei 52, 54) bt Assam 0.

PCB seeks ICC's clarity on India's refusal

Press Trust of India
KARACHI

The Pakistan Cricket Board will seek clarity from the ICC on hosting the Champions Trophy since they have only been intimated that India will not travel for the tournament but there was no word on the hybrid model being proposed.

The PCB was told by the ICC that BCCI will not send its team to Pakistan after the decision was communicated to the world governing body.

A source said PCB was awaiting policy guidelines from the government regarding India, which will be cited to seek clarification from the ICC about India's refusal to participate.

Proud Mary bags Donegal Plate

HYDERABAD: Trainer Laxman Singh's filly Proud Mary, ridden by P. Sai Kumar, won the Donegal Plate, the chief event of Monday's (Nov. 11) races. The winner is owned by Mr. S. Pathy.

THE RESULTS:

1. OWN OPINION PLATE (1,200m): **DALI'S CHAMPION** (Kuldeep Singh Sr.) 1, Muaser (P. Ajeeth K) 2, Anahita (G. Naresh) 3 and Exponent (R.S. Jodha) 4. 3-1/4, 2 and 1-1/2. 1m 14.89s. ₹17 (w), 10, 14 and 20 (p). SHP: 48, THP: 74, SHW: 15 and 25, FP: 73, Q: 60, Tanala: 1,134. Favourite: Dali's Champion. Owner: Mr. Mamidi Bhudevi Dilip Kumar. Trainer: S. Sreekant.

2. HIMALAYA PLATE (1,600m): **GET LUCKY** (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Pleasant Star (Akshay K) 2, Uchchaihshravas (Kuldeep Sr.) 3 and Secret Saint (Antony Raj) 4. Neck, Head and Head. 1m 38.55s. ₹17 (w), 11, 13 and 15 (p). SHP: 55, THP: 43, SHW: 11 and 30, FP: 85, Q: 66, Tanala: 291. Favourite: Get Lucky. Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

3. DONEGAL PLATE (1,200m): **PROUD MARY** (Gaurav Singh) 1, Miss Maya (Akshay K) 2, N R I Sport (A.A. Vikrant) 3 and Amyra (Afroz K) 4. 2-3/4, 1-1/2 and 3/4. 1m 11.23s. ₹19 (w), 11 and 10 (p). SHP: 24, THP: 42, SHW: 14 and 10, FP: 46, Q: 15, Tanala: 202. Favourite: Miss Maya. Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: Laxman Singh.

4. KRISHNA CUP (1,400m): **DALI'S DESTINY** (Deepak Singh) 1, Federer (P. Ajeeth K) 2, Lights On (Md. Ekram) 3 and Power Ranger (R.S. Jodha) 4. 11-1/2, 1/2 and Short Head. 1m 25.43s. ₹26 (w), 15, 18 and 42 (p). SHP: 71, THP: 94, SHW: 16 and 45, FP: 258, Q: 159, Tanala: 3,713. Favourite: Dali's Destiny. Owners: Mr. N. Adil Mirza, Ms. Nimrah Mirza & Mr. Mohd. Sohrab Mirza. Trainer: Laxman Singh.

5. HYDERABAD CUP (1,200m): **THE INHERITOR** (Gaurav Singh) 1, Malibu (Shivansh) 2, Runlikethewind (Mohit) 3 and Sweet Dancer (P. Ajeeth K) 4. 8-1/4, 3/4 and 2-3/4. 1m 11.86s. ₹76 (w), 34, 13 and 19 (p). SHP: 41, THP: 50, SHW: 40 and 14, FP: 372, Q: 137, Tanala: 1,285. Favourite: Malibu. Owner: Mr. B.E. Vasanth Kumar. Trainer: B. Mukesh Kumar.

6. DEMOCRACY PLATE (1,100m): **LINDA** (A. Ashad Asbar) 1, Opera Queen (A.A. Vikrant) 2, Newfound Glory (Santosh Raj) 3 and Lady Jane (Md. Ekram) 4. 1-1/4, 2 and 3-3/4. 1m 6.71s. ₹24 (w), 10, 32 and 16 (p). SHP: 89, THP: 33, SHW: 13 and 45, FP: 517, Q: 319, Tanala: 1,695. Favourite: Shooting Star. Owners: Col. S.B. Nair & Mr. Aditya P. Thackersey. Trainer: L.V.R. Deshmukh.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹5,616 (51 tkts.), 30%: 735 (167 tkts.).

Treble: (i) 95 (300 tkts.), (ii) 915 (62 tkts.).

Mini Jackpot: 3,910 (16 tkts.).

SWING FACTOR

Anderson could be picked by Chennai Super Kings: Vaughan

FILE PHOTO

Former England captain Michael Vaughan says he "won't be surprised" if Jimmy Anderson ends up at Chennai Super Kings. "They [CSK] like someone who can swing the ball in the first few overs. They have always had a swing bowler like Shardul Thakur or someone else. It wouldn't surprise me if Jimmy ends up at CSK".

2-0 LEAD

Buttler's blitz powers England home against West Indies

GETTY IMAGES

Jos Buttler's rampaging 83 powered England to an emphatic seven-wicket victory over the West Indies in the second T20I at Kensington Oval in Barbados on Sunday. **The scores**: West Indies 158/8 in 20 overs (Powell 43) lost to England 161/3 in 14.5 overs (Buttler 83, Will Jacks 38). **Toss**: England. **PoM**: Buttler.

DOUBLE WHAMMY

Lewandowski ruled out for 10 days, Yamal for up to three weeks

REUTERS

Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski and Lamine Yamal have picked up injuries which have ruled them out of the international break. Lewandowski suffered a back injury in Sunday's 1-0 defeat at Real Sociedad. Yamal missed Sunday's game with a right ankle injury and is expected to be out of action for between two and three weeks.

EXCITING CONTESTS

Pirates prove too good for Giants; Steelers turn the tables on Mumba

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Patna Pirates returned to winning ways, securing a 40-27 victory over Gujarat Giants in their PKL 11 contest in Noida on Monday. For Pirates, Ayan Lohchab (10 points) was the star again. Ajith Chouhan's 18 points weren't enough as U Mumba lost to Haryana Steelers 39-48. Steelers overturned a nine-point deficit to win.

'I don't think I am feeling the heat'

Coach Gambhir feels that his job is to be 'absolutely honest' and there are some incredibly tough people in the dressing room

INDIA IN AUS

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

Top priority: For head coach Gambhir, Team India comes first. PTI

Gautam Gambhir hasn't had a smooth start to his international coaching career. Even though India won the T20I series against Sri Lanka in August, followed by the Test series against Bangladesh, it lost the ODIs against Sri Lanka and the biggest defeat in Tests came last week when the team went 0-3 down against New Zealand at home.

But Gambhir made it clear that the setbacks won't change his approach. For him, it's always about putting the team first over personal milestones and that's something he wants the players to follow as well.

"The only conversation I have had – be it with the seniors, the experienced players or the youngsters – is to keep Indian cricket ahead of any other thing. To keep the team ahead of their personal milestones," Gambhir said on Monday, ahead of the team's departure to Australia for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

"Because that is what team sport is all about. And that is how team sport is meant to be played. I am sure that is something that will continue to happen in the future as well."

He felt that the 'smallest of things' could make a huge difference in helping the team achieve its goal.

Aware of expectations

Gambhir revealed that before taking up the job, he was aware of the expectations that would come with it. Having played at the highest level for a long time, he said he knew how to handle pressure.

"What difference does social media make in my life and, for that matter, anyone's life? When I took up this job, I always knew that it was going to be a highly difficult job and a highly prestigious one as well.

"Honestly, I don't think I am feeling the heat because my job is to be absolutely honest... there are some incredibly tough people in the dressing room who have achieved some great things for the country and will continue to achieve great things for the country," said Gambhir, reacting to the backlash Team India faced following the 0-3 drubbing against New Zealand.

Gambhir believes that adaptability will be the key in Australia. "The biggest challenge will obviously be the conditions as they are completely different."

Making a point: Gambhir says he isn't too worried about the lack of runs from Kohli and Rohit. FILE PHOTO: R. RAGU

Gambhir slams Ponting for questioning the form of Rohit and Kohli

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

India's head coach, Gautam Gambhir, hit out at former Australia captain Ricky Ponting, who recently questioned the form of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

"What does Ricky Ponting have to do with Indian cricket?" Gambhir said on Monday, ahead of the team's departure to Australia.

"He should be talking about Australia. Look, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are still passionate about the game and want to achieve more. They are hungry for success and have done exceptionally well for the country over the years," the head coach said, adding: "Even the other players are doing a fine job, and I am sure we will improve as a group. I have no concerns regarding Virat and Rohit..."

> They are incredibly tough men and have achieved a lot for Indian cricket and will continue to do so. My role is to ensure that their hunger is still there

In the recently concluded three-match Test series against New Zealand at home, which India lost 0-3, Kohli managed only 93 runs in six innings, while Rohit scored 91 runs, prompting Ponting to question their form.

"I saw a stat the other day about Virat – it said he's only scored two (three) Test hundreds in the last five years. That didn't seem right to me, but if that is accurate, then that's, I mean, that's a concern," Ponting had said in his latest episode of the ICC Review.

"There probably wouldn't be anyone else still playing international cricket as a top-order batter who's only scored two Test match hundreds in five years."

However, Gambhir backed the seasoned campaigners. "They are incredibly tough men and have achieved a lot for Indian cricket and will continue to do so," Gambhir said. "My role is to ensure that their hunger is still there and they continue to work really hard."

Varun credits Gambhir for regaining lost form

Back with a bang: Varun has been impressive on his return to the national team. AP

Press Trust of India
GQEBERHA

Mystery spinner Varun Chakaravarthy has described the three-year gap from international cricket as "tough," saying he had to completely overhaul his bowling after finding that his orthodox side-spin wasn't working at higher levels.

The 33-year-old recorded his career-best figures of five for 17 in Sunday's second T20I against South Africa, though his efforts could not prevent India from losing by three wickets.

"I had to go to the drawing board and check out all my videos. I figured out that I was bowling side spin and it was not working out in the higher levels," he said.

"I had to change everything about my bowling. It took me two years and I started bowling in the local leagues and IPL also. It worked there and I have started bowling it in the international stage and it's working out for me." While side spin creates enough revolutions to make the ball drift sideways, overspin generates a sharp bounce and turn.

Talking about what worked for him as he added a fifer on Sunday to the three wickets he scalped in the first T20I in Durban, Varun said: "It is a combination of both my consistency and overspin.

"The overspin I bowl has more bite from the pitch and, hopefully, I can keep doing that and hopefully I can keep contributing for the country."

'Enough options if Rohit is not available'

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

As the Indian cricketers left for Australia early on Monday, captain Rohit Sharma did not travel with the team, leading to speculations over his availability for the first Test in Perth, beginning on November 22.

However, India head coach Gautam Gambhir hoped that the captain would be available for the series opener. "At the moment, there's no confirmation. We will let you know what the situation will be," Gambhir said at the pre-departure media interaction.

While the head coach remained non-committal, Gambhir also made it clear that there are enough options in case Rohit is not available in Perth.

"We have (Abhimanyu) Easwaran and KL (Rahul) there, so we will take a call closer to the first Test if Rohit is not available. It's not that we don't have options, there are quite a few options," Gambhir said.

ISL points table

As the Indian Super League (ISL) takes a break for international fixtures, a look at the standings:

		M	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Bengaluru FC	8	5	2	1	13	6	7	17
2	Mohun Bagan SG	7	4	2	1	13	8	5	14
3	NorthEast United FC	8	3	3	2	19	14	5	12
4	Chennaiyin FC	8	3	3	2	16	12	4	12
5	FC Goa	8	3	3	2	16	13	3	12
6	Punjab FC	6	4	0	2	10	7	3	12
7	Jamshedpur FC	7	4	0	3	11	16	-5	12
8	Mumbai City FC	7	2	4	1	12	10	2	10
9	Odisha FC	8	2	3	3	13	14	-1	9
10	Kerala Blasters FC	8	2	2	4	12	16	-4	8
11	Hyderabad FC	7	2	1	4	7	10	-3	7
12	Mohammedan SC	7	1	2	4	3	11	-8	5
13	East Bengal FC	7	0	1	6	4	12	-8	1

Aravindh stuns Aronian to claim the top prize

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Champion stuff: Masters category winner Aravindh with Pranav, who won the Challengers crown. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

For someone whose aim entering the tournament was not to finish last, Aravindh Chithambaram not only surprised everyone, but also himself, when he went on to clinch an incredible title win by defeating Levon Aronian (US) 2-0 in a blitz tie-break in the second edition of the Chennai Grandmasters classical chess tournament at the Anna Centenary Library auditorium here on Monday.

What makes his title win incredible is that it was his first classical super tournament. He began the tournament with a struggle, when he was on the backfoot and had to defend almost throughout to manage a draw with Iranian Amin Tabatabaei in the first round. He was an unlikely champion until the end of the fifth round, when he'd drawn all his games. He had noted that he'd got no chance to win in any of his games.

Possibly boosted by his win against top seed Arjun Erigaisi in the sixth round, he won with black pieces versus Iranian Parham Maghsoodloo in the last round.

As Arjun and Aronian drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (France) and Tabatabaei respectively, it was a three-way tie between Arjun (4.5), Aravindh (4.5), and Aronian (4.5) for the championship.

Since Aravindh had the best tie-break in terms of direct encounters, he was given a bye to face the winner of the Arjun-Aronian blitz tie-break (two games).

But as that tie-break once again ended in a tie (1-1), Arjun and Aronian played an armageddon decider. Aronian won by virtue of holding Arjun to a draw with black pieces.

V. Pranav drew with Leon Luke Mendonca in the final round to secure the Challengers title.

The results (seventh round, Indians unless mentioned):
Masters: Levon Aronian (US, 4.5) drew with Amin Tabatabaei (Irn, 4); Alexey Sarana (Ser, 2.5) drew with Vidit Gujrathi (2.5); Arjun Erigaisi (4.5) drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 3); Parham Maghsoodloo (Irn, 2.5) lost to Aravindh Chithambaram (4.5).
Challengers: V. Pranav (5.5) drew with Leon Luke Mendonca (5); D. Harika (2) drew with M. Pranesh (3.5); Abhimanyu Puranik (3.5) drew with Raunak Sadhwani (4); Karthikeyan Murali (3.5) bt R. Vaishali (1).

Aravindh makes a habit of winning in Chennai

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Aravindh Chithambaram agreed on Monday that his Chennai Grandmasters title win on his super GM tournament debut is the biggest win of his career.

He also said that it was the happiest and the best day of his life. "First of all, I feel that playing with these guys is an achievement. The last time I played here was in 2013. I won that tournament (Chennai GM Open), and again I'm winning this. So, it means a lot. Also, probably, Chennai is a lucky place," Aravindh added.

Bit of a pessimist

The 25-year-old said he keeps working on his self-belief. "I'm not an optimist, but a bit of a pessimist, I would say. For instance, after making a move, I would go to the restroom and talk to myself in the mirror (to motivate myself). That actually happened in the game with Parham (last round)."

He said that he might be playing in the Qatar Masters next.

Alcaraz given a Ruud awakening

Finally... Ruud got his first win over Alcaraz in five meetings. AP

Reuters
TURIN

Spain's Carlos Alcaraz suffered a shock 6-1, 7-5 defeat against Norway's Casper Ruud in his opening match at the ATP Finals as his hopes of winning the year-end title for the first time suffered a big blow on Monday.

World No. 7 Ruud, who had lost all four of his previous meetings against Alcaraz, saved break points in the opening game but dominated the first set from then on as surprising errors flowed from the Spaniard's racket.

On Sunday, Jannik Sinner got his bid for a first ATP Finals title underway with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Alex de Minaur.

The results:
John Newcombe Group: Ruud bt Alcaraz 6-1, 7-5.
On Sunday: Ilie Nastase Group: Sinner bt de Minaur 6-3, 6-4.

INBRIEF

Shubhankar finishes 32nd as Warring clinches title

India's Shubhankar Sharma produced his best card of the week, a superb seven-under 65, in the final round to sign off at tied 32nd at the HSBC Abu Dhabi golf Championships. After 71, 73 on the first two days, Shubhankar had a great weekend as his final two rounds of 66 and 65 had an eagle each. Paul Waring held off a stellar chasing pack to win the tournament and claim his first Rolex Series title.

Langer wins 18th straight PGA Tour championship

Bernhard Langer won for the 18th straight year on the PGA Tour Champions, holing a 30-foot birdie putt on the final hole to hold off Steven Alker in the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship on Sunday at Phoenix. The 67-year-old Langer closed with a 5-under 66 – shooting his age or better for the third straight day and 23rd time on the tour – for a one-stroke victory over defending champion Alker – who won the season points title and a $1 million bonus – and Richard Green. Langer pushed his tour victory record to 47, just over eight months after tearing his left Achilles playing pickelball. The German star won the season-ending event for the first time and extended his record as the tour's oldest winner.

India opens with resounding victory over Malaysia

Though the home team appeared to lack cohesion and clarity, especially inside the circle in the first half, it turns things around after the break

ASIAN CT

Uthra Ganesan
RAJGIR

A half-time message to stop thinking about the result and focus on the moment helped the Indian women's team get the result it wanted, a 4-0 win over Malaysia in its opening game of the Asian Champions Trophy hockey here on Monday.

For the first 30 minutes, India did not seem like the ninth-ranked side in the world taking on a team at a lowly 23rd. The chances were there and the occasional flash of talent but for large parts, the Indian girls appeared to lack cohesion and clarity, especially inside the circle.

India had 10 penalty corners in the first half and could only convert one, Sangita Kumari managing to desperately poke the ball in after an exchange of passes.

It did not help that the designated Indian flicker Deepika did not take any direct shot. The clumsiness inside the circle by the forwards made it worse.

"They were too hurried and too quick, they want to do everything quickly and that results in messy finish. They need to settle down a bit and need to get a little more clinical.

"They have chosen the right skills but they need to make sure that the ball is on the stick at the right moment.

"Trying to take a shot on the bounce ends in the ball not going into the cage," Harendra explained.

The break did the team good. "I told them to play simply and not take pressure, enjoy the moment. There needs to be emotional control. Our girls think more about the outcome, that's a mentality we have to change." he admitted.

The difference was visible soon after as the team's runs became more fluent and composed. A variation in their 12th penalty corner saw Navneet Kaur passing the ball to Preeti Dubey to deflect in, doubling the lead in the 43rd minute. A minute later, another penalty corner saw Udita smash the ball into the board.

On the prowl: Sangita, right, scored two goals for India. R.V. MOORTHY

Solo run

Sangita added one more to her own and the team tally five minutes from time, running a solo on the left from the half line and unleashing a powerful shot that beat the Malaysian goalkeeper and its defence that, till then, had held resolutely against all attack.

"Our priority is to not concede goals, then try and score so in that sense I am satisfied."

Big win for China

China, here with neither the bulk of players from that side nor chief coach Allyson Annan, thrashed a helpless Thailand 15-0.

The results: Japan 2 (Saki Tanaka, Natsumi Oshima) drew with Korea 2 (Yujin Lee, Mihyang Park); China 15 (Yanan Xu 3, Xiaoyan Ma 2, Jinzhuang Tan 2, Anhui Yu 2, Xuejiao Ma 2, Quichan Deng, Yunxia Fan, Xueling Zeng, Haiyan Huang) bt Thailand 0.

India 4 (Sangita Kumari 2, Preeti Dubey, Udita) bt Malaysia 0.

PKL will be having a positive influence on the overall sport, says Goswami

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Anupam Goswami.

Pro Kabaddi League commissioner Anupam Goswami is confident that kabaddi will be part of Olympics given the kind of patronage, popularity and the professional way the Pro Kabaddi League which is successfully entering the second decade soon.

In an exclusive chat with *The Hindu*, Anupam Goswami said, "We have the best engagement and relevance for kabaddi fans around the world. And it will mean that not only will PKL be a high-quality sports league, it will also be having a very positive and strong influence on the overall sport of kabaddi around the world," Goswami said.

"Especially given the fact that India is going to make a very serious pitch for the Olympics and I think there is already some indication of a mindset which also wants to bring an Indian sport to the Olympics.

" I think Kabaddi is going to be a very strong contender for that.

"One of the reasons why we will be there (in the Olympics) is the PKL. The way it's consumed by fans besides the quality of play and competition," he said.

On reverting to the three-city format, Anupam Goswami said they were very keen to complete Season 11 in the calendar year by adjusting to the calendar of the other major sports league and also reduce travel time and fatigue to the players.

"I am sure PKL is one of the first leagues which is going to hit towards the third decade and that is a very strong statement," he said.

Unique

"The league has succeeded because of the very unique and strong partnership with our media partners at *Star India*. They have brought the fans focus on life for the league," Goswami said.

"We are very clear that the custodian of the sport in India will be the Kabaddi Federation. We are very close and we are very clear that the International Kabaddi Federation is the custodian of the sport internationally," he concluded.

Ghosh chalks out roadmap for identifying talent

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

The newly elected president of the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI), Arindam Ghosh, laid out plans to identify young talents and groom them for international events.

"There are no policies to help Indian drivers get to the international stage. We have to decide which disciplines we have talent in. We would like to conduct talent hunts, identify the best, and train them before sending them to international events. There has to be a procedure, which has not been there so far," Ghosh said on Monday.

The president also said that the calendar will be tweaked to start from April to March instead of January to December so that racing can happen in the first three months of the year when the weather is pleasant in most parts of India.

The former rally driver also said the federation will make motorsport spectator-friendly and increase the profile of domestic competitions. FMSCI council member Tamal Ghosh cited the success of the F4 night street race event in Chennai earlier this year as a model to take the sport to the people.

"The night race in Chennai was a huge success. The custom-built tracks are normally far from the city (centre), so it is not easy to access them. There is limited interest then.

"If we can build something right in the middle of a city, this kind of spectator connection is critical. If we connect more with spectators, the interest will be better," said Ghosh.

On the podium: Smit Moradiya, champion Jiri Privratsky, and Maciej Kowalewicz. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Jiri edges out Smit for the air rifle gold

SHOOTING

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Smit Moradiya almost pulled off a coup, but was pipped by 0.1 point for gold by the seasoned Jiri Privratsky of the Czech Republic in the 10-metre air rifle event of the World University shooting championship at the Dr. Karni Singh Range on Monday.

When Umamahesh Maddineni and Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar were pushed out of the medals table, little known Smit shot brilliantly in the climax, winding up with a 10.8 that brought the roof down at the venue with applause.

It was the second individual gold for Jiri Privratsky, the 25-year-old who has 19 World Cup medals including nine gold, after his dominant show in the rifle 3-position event on Sunday.

It was some consolation for the host that the team won the gold, ahead of Korea and Hungary.

In women's rifle 3-position event, Asian Games gold medallist Sift Kaur Samra tried hard despite having been stuck at the sixth position for long, and missed a medal by 0.6 point.

Sift had qualified for the final with a score of 587, but Manini Kaushik with the same score missed out.

In fact, three spots in the final were made with 587, while three others missed out with the same score.

Sift, Manini and Vanshita Shahi won the team silver with 1755, one point behind Czech Republic and one point ahead of Germany.

In mixed trap, the non-Olympic event that does not feature a final, Indian teams won the silver and bronze medals behind Czech Republic.

The results:
10m air rifle: Men: 1. Jiri Privratsky (Cze) 252.2 (637.7); 2. Smit Moradiya 252.1 (630.0); 3. Maciej Kowalewicz (Pol) 230.1(625.9); 4. Umamahesh Maddneni 208.8 (629.8); 5. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar 187.7 (628.3).
Team: 1. India 1888.1; 2. Korea 1874.7; 3. Hungary 1866.2.
50m rifle 3-position: 1. Gathe Girard (Fra) 462.3 (590); 2. Julia Piotrowska (Pol) 462.0 (591); 3. Anna Janssen (Ger) 450.2 (589); 4. Sift Kaur Samra 439.6 (587); 9. Manini Kaushik 587; 27. Vanshika Shahi 581.
Team: 1. Czech Republic 1756; 2. India 1755; 3. Germany 1754.
Mixed trap: 1. Czech Republic (Zina Hrdlickova, Jan Palacky) 140; 2. India-2 (Kirti Gupta, Jungsher Singh Virk) 138; 3. India (Aashima Ahlawat, Bakhtyaruddin Malek) 137.

National champion Sarthak sets sights on international success

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Sarthak Chavan scripted history last month when he became the youngest rider to win the premier Pro-Stock 300-400cc national title as a 17-year-old in the Indian National Motorcycling championship.

After finishing third last year in the same class, Sarthak got the job done in dominant fashion this year to clinch the championship with nine wins. He also finished third in the Pro-Stock 165 cc class.

The rider from Pune, who turned 18 recently, has now set his eyes on leaving a mark on the international scene as he charts his path to Moto GP, the pinnacle of motorcycling racing.

After success in the one-make series with Honda, TVS Racing signed him as part of their factory team.

Main target: Sarthak is looking to consolidate his third spot in the ARRC standings and go for the title next year. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sarthak is currently racing in the Asian Road Racing Championship in the TVS Asia One Make Championship.

The teenager has also participated in the Asia Talent Cup on the Honda NSF 250R bikes. The races happen alongside the MotoGP event during the Asian swing, and Sarthak says a good performance here could help him get on the path set by Dorna, the commercial rights owners of Moto GP.

"I can manage my pace well, conserving my energy and pushing later in the race. I think I can improve my race starts," says Sarthak, describing his strengths.

Explaining the challenges for Indian riders, Sarthak highlighted that a lack of track time is a major concern.

"Seat time is the main issue. I had been in Japan for training, and they looked for accuracy in everything. Those guys do a 20-minute session, have a break and go back again.

"They train four days a week and work a lot on fitness. I don't have any track near Pune that is big enough for me to practice on," he added.

Regarding his future, the mechanical engineering student said, "My goal right now is to cement my third place in the standings in the ARRC and win this title next year. I would like to race 600cc bikes in Malaysia or Thailand, and my ultimate goal is to race world championship-level races like Moto3 in the next few years," said Sarthak.

United players hungry to learn from Amorim: Casemiro

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Casemiro says Manchester United's players are hungry to learn from new manager Ruben Amorim, who is expected to arrive in Britain on Monday to start the daunting task of reviving the struggling club.

Ruud van Nistelrooy's four-match reign as interim United boss ended with a 3-0 Premier League victory against Leicester on Sunday. Brazilian midfielder Casemiro is looking forward to working him. "He is very true, very loyal," Casemiro said after the win against Leicester. "We cannot ignore how he has changed Sporting (Lisbon). We know that Sporting won many titles, changed the club with titles, with trophies."

Sociedad's Becker hands a Real shock for Barcelona

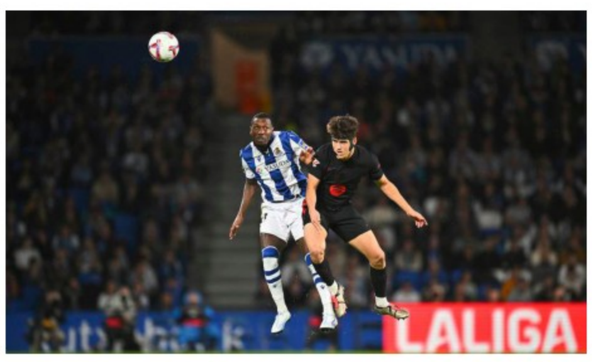
EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
SAN SEBASTIAN

Barcelona suffered a shock 0-1 LaLiga defeat at Real Sociedad on Sunday that ended its seven-match winning streak in all competitions as Sheraldo Becker scored for the Basque side in the first half.

Hakan Calhanoglu finally missed a penalty for Inter Milan after scoring a stunning equaliser as it was held to a 1-1 home draw by leader Napoli in Serie A.

The visitor took the lead in the 23rd minute against the run of play when Scott McTominay pounced to poke home from close range after a corner was flicked on.



Making a difference: Becker, left, found the winner for Real Sociedad. AP'

The results: LaLiga: Real Sociedad 1 (S. Becker 33) bt Barcelona 0.

Serie A: Inter Milan 1 (Calhanoglu 43) drew with Napoli 1 (McTominay 23).

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Thumping win for Karnataka

Karnataka registered a thumping nine-wicket victory over Odisha on the final day of the Col. C.K. Nayudu (under-23) Trophy match at Balangir on Monday. Chasing a 143-run target, the visitor romped home in style, helped by half-centuries from Prakhar Chaturvedi (72 n.o., 96b, 7x4, 2x6) and Harshil Dharmani (54 n.o., 45b, 8x4).
Odisha, from an overnight 274 for six, managed 346, with skipper Sawan Pahariya scoring 121 (229b, 17x4). But the massive first-innings lead of 204 runs it had conceded meant it had little to no chance of a victory.
Karnataka will next play Chandigarh away from November 20 to 23.
The scores: Karnataka 389 & 143/1 in 29 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 72 n.o., Harshil Dharmani 54 n.o.) bt Odisha 185 & 374 in 99.2 overs (Om 45, Sawan Pahariya 121, Sambit S. Baral 36, Sujal K. Singh 84, Asutosh Marndi 25, L. Manvanth Kumar 3/53, Paras Gurbax Arya 3/77).

LIVE TELECAST

Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 2.30 p.m. onwards

Hockey: Women's ACT, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 3, 5.15 & India vs South Korea, 7.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m. onwards.